

No 63,729

Aid for Russia to be discussed today

£7 billion deal for Germany to stay in Nato

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE Soviet Union is asking for a massive Western aid package as the price for agreeing that a united Germany can be a full member of Nato.

The package, which is being put together by West Germany and will be discussed today, is expected to be as much as £7 billion and is being compared in significance with America's post-war Marshall Aid to Western Europe. The request is considered to be near-unrefusible, given the Soviet Union's economic troubles, although West Germany refuses to see it as part of a deal on Nato membership. It is merely a question of buying stability for the Soviet Union.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, will be discussing details today when he flies to Brest, on the Soviet-Polish border, to meet Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet opposite number.

Reports circulating in Bonn, confirmed in today's *Der Spiegel*, put the total package at DM 20 billion (£7 billion). The figures compare with Germany's trade surplus last year of DM 190 billion and a total budget of DM 300 billion. Though the country is expected to run a DM 54 billion budget deficit for the current year, because of the costs of unification, it has enjoyed increased tax revenues because of a booming economy.

West Germany will urge the European Community and the

INSIDE

Missing financier

The missing financier who ran Dunsdale Securities, the investment company which collapsed last week, had been employed by London and County Securities, the banking group which was investigated by the Department of Trade and Industry after it collapsed in 1973.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Mr Robert Miller, who disappeared 10 days ago owing investors at least £17 million..... Page 25

Teaching plan

Graduate teachers should be trained on the job and university education departments closed, the right-wing Centre for Policy Studies says in a report..... Page 5

Canadian accord

Canadian political leaders have forged a constitutional reconciliation between French-speaking Quebec and the rest of the country after a week of intense and often bitter negotiations..... Page 11

Bright forecast

The economy will expand next year and grow faster in 1992-4 thanks to rapid growth in exports and lower interest rates. Oxford Economic Forecasting says..... Page 25

Economic view, page 27

Gómez wins

Andrés Gómez won his first grand slam tennis title by beating Andre Agassi 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the French Open at Roland Garros..... Page 44

US defeated

The United States, in their first appearance in the World Cup finals since 1950, lost 5-1 to Czechoslovakia in a Group A game in Florence yesterday..... Page 48

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United States to make contributions. In a television interview at the weekend, Herr Genscher refused to confirm the figure, but did say that the Government was discussing closer economic and financial co-operation with the Soviet Union.

"In this affair we are in favour of building new trust through economic co-operation," he said. According to *Der Spiegel*, Mr Shevardnadze raised the question of aid with Herr Genscher when the two met in the margins of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) last week. The magazine claimed he said that Moscow was prepared to accept membership of a united Germany in Nato in return for economic help on this scale.

Asked whether this deal was true, Herr Genscher warned that Germany's allegiance to Nato was not something that could be bought and sold. But there had to be a new relationship between the military alliances, and in this spirit "we are holding out the hand of friendship and co-operation to the Soviet Union and all other European countries".

In a statement issued yesterday, before his meeting with Mr Shevardnadze, their fourth get-together in less than a month, Herr Genscher emphasized that the German people wanted the Soviet Union to also feel a "profit" from reunification. Stability and security were no longer just to be defined in a military sense. "The totality of relations, political, security policy, economic, ecological and cultural, will be the mark of the new stability in Europe."

It was necessary, he said, to avoid economic and social tension between the different states. West Germany was therefore ready for extensive economic and financial co-operation, aware that thereby it was investing in a common future with close contacts and peaceful competition.

Apart from the talks, today's visit has considerable symbolic significance. Mr Shevardnadze's brother was killed on the first day of the German breakthrough at Brest in June, 1941, and he will be taking Herr Genscher to see the grave. It will be a ceremony of reconciliation at a place where there was fierce fighting.

In arranging to meet at Brest, the Soviet aim is also to focus attention on the reason for its fears over German reunification. Mr Shevard-

nenko row, page 12
Bernard Levin, page 14

Communists do well as Havel party wins

From RICHARD BASSETT IN PRAGUE

CIVIC Forum, the movement founded by President Havel, has won Czechoslovakia's first free elections since 1946, taking just more than 46 per cent of the vote to gain about 170 seats in the 300-seat federal Parliament.

While voting for the bicameral federal Parliament, Czechoslovakia's 11.1 million voters on Friday and Saturday also elected assemblies for the Czech and Slovak republics. The federal Parliament will sit for two years to choose a new

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Loyal Thatcher, page 12

Detail from one of the SS murals which glorify Hitler's dream

intense street fighting of the war went on above their heads.

The site has long since been flattened and the bunker left buried and out of bounds, to allow the East German border guards a clear view of those fleeing to freedom.

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because the site alongside the now demolished Berlin Wall is being cleared for the staging of an ambitious rock concert in aid of Group Captain Leonard Cheshire's Fund for Disaster Relief.

Not surprisingly, the authorities are sensitive about the paintings and have sealed the bunker. Their fate has yet to



An army robot checking the wreckage of the car, believed to have been bombed by animal rights activists, at Cottenham, Bristol, yesterday

Armenia quake city fêtes Thatcher

From MARY DEJEVSKY AND ROBIN OAKLEY IN LENINAKAN

MRS THATCHER had to curtail her visit to the city of Leninakan yesterday on security grounds. The thinking was that it was a lack of choice of everyday items such as shoes, clothes and a variety of foods that was a prime cause of dissatisfaction among the Soviet population. West German companies have been starting joint ventures with Russian concerns, building mass production lines.

In the past month Herr Haussmann has been to Moscow to talk about further ways of helping in specific areas where there is little or no Soviet knowhow. These include ways of improving the transport system, of industrial logistics and even ways of converting defence industry plant for civilian use.

At the same time West Germany is to increase its programme of training young Soviet managers because it is understood that it will be impossible to rebuild the economy if the people in charge of running industry have not got necessary competitive market skills.

Before travelling to Leninakan, Mrs Thatcher had spent Saturday in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, where she was pursued by crowds shouting "We love you, Madame Thatcher".

In an address to the republic's parliament Mrs Thatcher disappointed the hopes of Ukrainian nationalists by declining to support their call for independence and drew a distinction between the Ukraine and the Baltic republics.

More details also emerged yesterday of Mrs Thatcher's official meetings in Moscow on the first full day of her visit. British officials described her two and a half hour talks with President Gorbachov as "the warmest and friendliest" on record and believed that she had succeeded in edging the Soviet leader towards public acceptance of a united Germany in Nato.

They expressed concern, however, at what they regarded as mischievous elements in Washington over the possible inclusion of the French and British independent nuclear deterrents in talks on a future strategic arms treaty (Start II).

British officials said Trident was not raised by any of the Soviet leaders whom Mrs Thatcher met in Moscow. Mrs Thatcher for her part said she had stressed that Britain was interested in maintaining only the "minimum credible deterrent" but was intent on retaining it well into the next century.

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Crew stop pilot being sucked from aircraft

By DAVID YOUNG

AN AIRCRAFT carrying 81 holidaymakers from Birmingham to Malaga made an emergency landing at Southampton yesterday with its captain seriously injured and members of the crew struggling to stop him being sucked through the windscreen.

Many of the passengers on the British Airways BAC 1-11 saw the 15-minute struggle. The co-pilot brought the aircraft under control and towards a safe landing.

The sudden loss of pressure of the aircraft at 23,000ft caused the door between the flight-deck and the passenger cabin to fly open and emergency oxygen masks to drop from the overhead lockers.

British Airways said that at the time of the incident, Mr Nigel Ogden, aged 30, the purser, was taking coffee to Captain Timothy Lancaster and Mr Alastair Atcheson, the co-pilot.

Mr Ogden tried to grab the captain, but gashed his hand. The other steward, Mr Simon Rogers, then grabbed the captain's legs and strapped him

self into the captain's seat until the aircraft landed. British Airways said that the captain was hanging out of the aircraft from the waist up for about 15 minutes. The two stewards and eight passengers were treated for shock and minor injuries.

Investigations will centre on one of the six new windscreen panels that had been fitted to the aircraft at Birmingham on Friday after other pilots had reported signs of the laminations lifting on the old windscreen. Investigators are discounting suggestions that the aircraft was hit by an object.

Last night, British Airways departures from Manchester to Brussels, Madrid, Amsterdam, Paris and Jersey were delayed after five 1-11s were temporarily grounded. More than 320 passengers had to wait up to three hours while engineering teams carried out 90-minute checks on the deck windows.

The aircraft had taken off from Birmingham at 8.15am yesterday. It was above Reading, Berkshire, and climbing to its cruising height when one

of the six windscreens panels was sucked outwards and the aircraft depressurized. The 3½ft by 1½ft windscreens was found in a field near Wallingford, Oxfordshire, and passed to investigators.

Department of Trade air accident investigation branch officers are inspecting the 18-year-old aircraft to find out what caused the window, held in place by more than 100 bolts, to become damaged.

British Airways has decided not to ground their BAC 1-11s, in spite of yesterday's incident. The company said that the aircraft had been checked "thoroughly" before it took off from Birmingham Airport.

Hampshire Police have set up a special telephone line for relatives concerned about passengers on flight BA 5390. The number is Southampton (0703) 642630. All but four passengers who were treated for shock later transferred to a Boeing 737 replacement aircraft to continue their journey to the Costa del Sol.

Investigation starts, page 2

Car bomb injures a baby

By A STAFF REPORTER

A BABY boy, aged 13 months, underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being hit by shrapnel as a bomb exploded in a passing car in Bristol.

The bomb is believed to be the work of animal rights extremists and police will liaise with the Wiltshire force to examine any links with last Wednesday's bomb attack on a car belonging to a veterinary surgeon from the Ministry of Defence establishment at Porton Down.

John Capper was taken by his father to visit his mother in hospital when the Volkswagen car, driven by Dr Patrick Max Headley, a Bristol University animal psychologist, exploded. Police said he could lose a finger and had shrapnel lodged near his spine.

Deputy Chief Constable Mr John Harland, of Avon and Somerset police, said the child was "very fortunate" to be alive. "We are dealing with very sinister people, criminal terrorists. These are not people being kind to animals but people trying to kill humans."

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Not surprisingly, the authorities are sensitive about the paintings and have sealed the bunker. Their fate has yet to

be decided, but there are already calls to destroy them lest they become a neo-Nazi shrine.

The murals are thought to have been painted in the final months of the war when the SS would have been defending Hitler's bunker several hundred yards away. The idealistic images suggest they were still convinced of victory.

The bunker is dark, damp and smelly. Despite stagnant water lying calf-deep, the murals, which crudely celebrate the Aryan dream remain colourful and clear. In one room, Nazi soldiers hold a tank in front of them, while others stand behind them, holding rifles. The murals are well-preserved, despite the fact that they were painted during the final days of the war.

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Inquiry to study bolts after aircraft cockpit blows out

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

A NEWLY fitted cockpit window that blew out of its mountings under a pressure of 1.3 tonnes was last night at the centre of the investigation into the cause of the near-disaster to flight BA 5390.

Only brilliant airmanship by the copilot of the 19-year-old BAC 1-11 jet, carrying 81 holidaymakers to Malaga, together with swift action by the cabin crew prevented what could have been one of Britain's worst air accidents.

The window of the jet immediately in front of the captain had been fitted at Birmingham Airport on Friday after pilots on earlier flights had reported

signs that one of the five layers of glass and vinyl making up the 600 square inch window had begun to laminate.

The entire frame had been bolted to the fuselage with nearly 100 bolts.

However investigators - who were last night inspecting the window, which had been found in a field in Oxfordshire - were concentrating on the individual bolts, in case any had suffered metal fatigue.

As the jet climbed and headed south, pressure in the cabin and the flight deck was gradually increased, until by the time the aircraft had reached 23,000ft, it was producing around 5lb a square inch, or the equivalent of the aircraft's flying at about 5,000ft. As the aircraft climbed

even higher, the air-pressure differential would have risen still further, by about the equivalent of 500ft a minute, until it reached its maximum of 7.5lb a square inch or the equivalent of flying at 8,000 feet.

When the cabin pressure reached a critical level, however, the window suddenly blew out, forced forward by the pressure of the air inside the aircraft.

The captain, who had slipped off his shoulder harness but was still strapped into his seat with a lap belt, was sucked forward and almost disappeared through the hole where the window had been.

Instantaneously there was a loud rushing noise as air escaped from the cabin, taking with it papers, trays and

loose objects. The cabin misted up as the moist air in the aircraft met the outside air and immediately became saturated with moisture.

As the oxygen masks dropped inside the passenger cabin, the crew had only about a minute to fit their own oxygen masks, stored at the side of the flight deck, to avoid blocking out or at least suffering the effects of the explosive decompression.

The flight crew, like all British Airways pilots, had been instructed at RAF Boscombe Down in reacting to an explosive decompression.

Mr Alistair Atcheson, the co-pilot, immediately took control. He turned the aircraft off the airways to avoid colliding

with the dozens of other aircraft in the vicinity and began an immediate rapid descent to 10,000ft, at which height the lack of air pressure in the cabin would have been tolerable.

Then he headed for the nearest diversion airfield, at Eastleigh, and made a pinpoint landing.

The BAC 1-11 had been taken over by British Airways from the British Caledonian fleet and was a 509 series, one of 13 in BA's colours. It had done about 37,000 hours flying and made 28,000 landings - considered about average for an aircraft of its age.

The 1-11 is regarded by pilots as one of the safest aircraft in the world. No other incidents of the whole windscreen being

blown out have been recorded, although it is not uncommon for one of the five layers of a windscreens to shatter in flight, crazing like a car windscreens struck by a stone. The windscreens are, however, under enormous pressure from air forced into the cabin through valves.

Engineers at Birmingham are working normally and the aircraft was not affected by the strike by 7,000 engineers at Heathrow.

Why the windscreens fixings failed will only be known after chemical analysis of them by the Air Accident Investigation Branch. It is likely, however, that one bolt, and perhaps more, may have had an impurity that led to their popping under pressure.

Decision soon on cash for rail link

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Cabinet will decide on Thursday whether to sanction the use of public funds to rescue Eurotunnel's scheme for a £3 billion Channel tunnel high-speed rail link through Kent.

Lobbying intensified over the weekend as the Eurotunnel consortium, of British Rail, Trafalgar House and BICC, insisted that without substantial public funds the project will have to be abandoned. The consortium has been asking Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, for up to £1 billion towards the scheme and a guarantee of public funds to meet any extra costs.

Although the Cabinet is not likely to approve the full shortfall, Mr Parkinson is expected to argue at Cabinet for a sum of up to £200 million towards the new line because of the benefits it would bring to British Rail's Network SouthEast services. A rejection of Eurotunnel's proposal for a link between the tunnel entrance and London would also jeopardize British Rail's scheme for a £600 million international terminal for tunnel passengers at King's Cross, which is being scrutinized by a Commons committee.

The committee is due next week to publish its report into British Rail's private Bill on the 34-acre King's Cross development. It may force British Rail to withdraw the Bill by stating that, without the high-speed link, the new terminal will not go ahead. Supporters of Eurotunnel's scheme argue that, without the fast link, tunnel passengers face indefinite crowding on lines through Kent to London.

THE average family is paying £300 a year more in taxation now than it was under the last Labour government, a Labour Party analysis said yesterday.

It accused the Conservatives of "pure fiction" in saying that Labour's taxation policies would increase the burden for middle-income earners, and it claimed that the Conservatives were the "high tax party".

Mrs Margaret Beckett, the shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, moved to counter Conservative claims over Labour's policies by publishing figures suggesting that the income tax cuts made by the Government have been more than wiped out by increases in VAT and national insurance employee contributions.

Her study, *Conservatives Cost You More*, conceded that a family with two children on average earnings which Labour's estimate at £14,000 a year, was paying £270 less in real terms this year in income tax than in 1979. But it stated that as a result of raising VAT from 8 per cent to 15 per cent in 1979, 5 per cent of earnings went in VAT this year, against 2.7 per cent in 1979. People were paying £364 more in VAT this year.

As a result of the 1979 increase in national insurance contributions from 6.5 per cent to 9 per cent, a family on average earnings paid 7.9 per cent of their gross earnings in national insurance in 1990-91 compared with 6.5 per cent in

1978-79, representing £224 more this year.

Mrs Beckett's analysis concluded that for a reduced income tax burden of £270 the average family was paying £588 more in VAT and national insurance.

The analysis also attempted to rebut Conservative claims that increased revenue from its decision to cut the top rate of tax was a result of "an incentive effect".

It said that the increased revenue was because the rich had been paying themselves more and because of the effects of "fiscal drag". The indexing of allowances and bands to cover inflation had pulled more people into the top rate tax because generally inflation was lower than earnings.

Mrs Beckett's study denied the findings of analyses suggesting that Labour's tax plans would inevitably hit many ordinary people.

Said that analysis by Credit Suisse First Boston had made wrong assumptions about Labour's policies by lumping together the effects of changes, such as the freezing of the married couple's allowance, which Labour had emphasized would be phased over a period of years, and its effect on plans to abolish the upper threshold for national insurance contributions.

On the Tory claim that the burden of income tax and national insurance would rise for middle-income groups, the analysis said that the Tories defined middle-income earners as those on £20,000 to £30,000 a year. "Yet 85 per cent of all tax-payers have an income of less than £20,000 a year. Defining the top 15 per cent of tax-payers as middle incomes is pure fiction."

A Gallup survey in *The Daily Telegraph* today shows that only 13 per cent of people believe the Government is doing a good job with its policies for helping the family. It says that 40 per cent of married couples or people living together think that the policies damage family life.

Some 88 per cent of those questioned wanted more creche facilities, 87 per cent wanted more nursery places, and 61 per cent were in favour of tax relief on child care costs.

• The Labour Party is to set up a committee of independent experts to consider electoral reform for bodies other than the House of Commons. The move comes as Labour leaders begin a determined move to persuade members and supporters of the Social Democratic Party to switch to the party.

The committee on electoral reform will be set up by Labour's National Executive Committee in the autumn. It will consider proportional representation for elections to the European Parliament, a reformed second chamber which Labour has promised will replace the House of Lords, a Scottish parliament and assemblies for Wales and the English regions.

Aberlour can also boast its own guardian angel in the ramrod figure of Mr. Ian Mitchell, who both watches over the casks with a gimlet eye and, in his role of head taster, claims his own rightful share.

At some rival distilleries, too, it has been observed, a certain amount of the produce is daily sacrificed. ↓

The tell-tale signs here, however, consisting not of sweet-scented oaken ceiling beams but of a soil sodden all around with the flaming liquor.

The explanation is clear.

While Aberlour provides the angels' share, other malts rock Satan's ample cellars. ↓

Beelzebub's ↓ preference obviously being for a rather more fiery brew.

ABERLOUR
10 YEARS OLD
SINGLE SPEYSIDE MALT

Taxes cost £300 more with Tories Labour says

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE average family is paying £300 a year more in taxation now than it was under the last Labour government, a Labour Party analysis said yesterday.

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Managers' pay rises 10%

By KEVIN EASON

PAY awards to managers have risen to almost 10 per cent, but more companies are scrapping general annual increases to move towards merit schemes that reward the best staff (Kevin Eason writes).

A survey by Incomes Data Services, the pay and conditions review group, shows that pay increases for managerial, professional and specialist staff moved up from 9.2 per cent in January to 9.8 per cent in April. The rising trend is due to higher inflation but also the demand for highly qualified staff who can now

name their own salary levels. However, IDS says that two-thirds of the deals monitored for the IDS Top Pay Review contained an element of merit pay, with some companies relating the entire increase to performance.

For example, the Selfridges chain paid up to 16 per cent to 400 managers and assistant managers, but purely on a merit scheme. The average pay was about 8 per cent, with profit bonuses ranging from 5 to 20 per cent.

ARCO Chemicals paid an average of 13 per cent to its

Battle of Britain air show attracts 250,000 visitors

MORE than 350 aircraft from 20 countries took part in the Royal Air Force's 50th Battle of Britain Air Show at Boscombe Down, Salisbury, at the weekend.

The show, which was sponsored by the television company TVS, attracted more than a quarter of a million spectators. A strong Second World War theme culminated in a Battle of Britain Pageant featuring 11 Spitfires, two Hurricanes, two ME109s and one ME109. The performance simulated a German attack on the airfield and the scrambling

of British aircraft. Spectators watched a dog-fight and a simulated shooting down of one of the German aircraft.

• About 100 Norwegian war veterans paraded in Dumfries yesterday to mark the 50th anniversary of their country's wartime link with the town. They laid a wreath at Troqueer Cemetery where Norwegians are buried, and marched past the site of the former Troqueer Mills where exiled troops were billeted.

Chemical leak

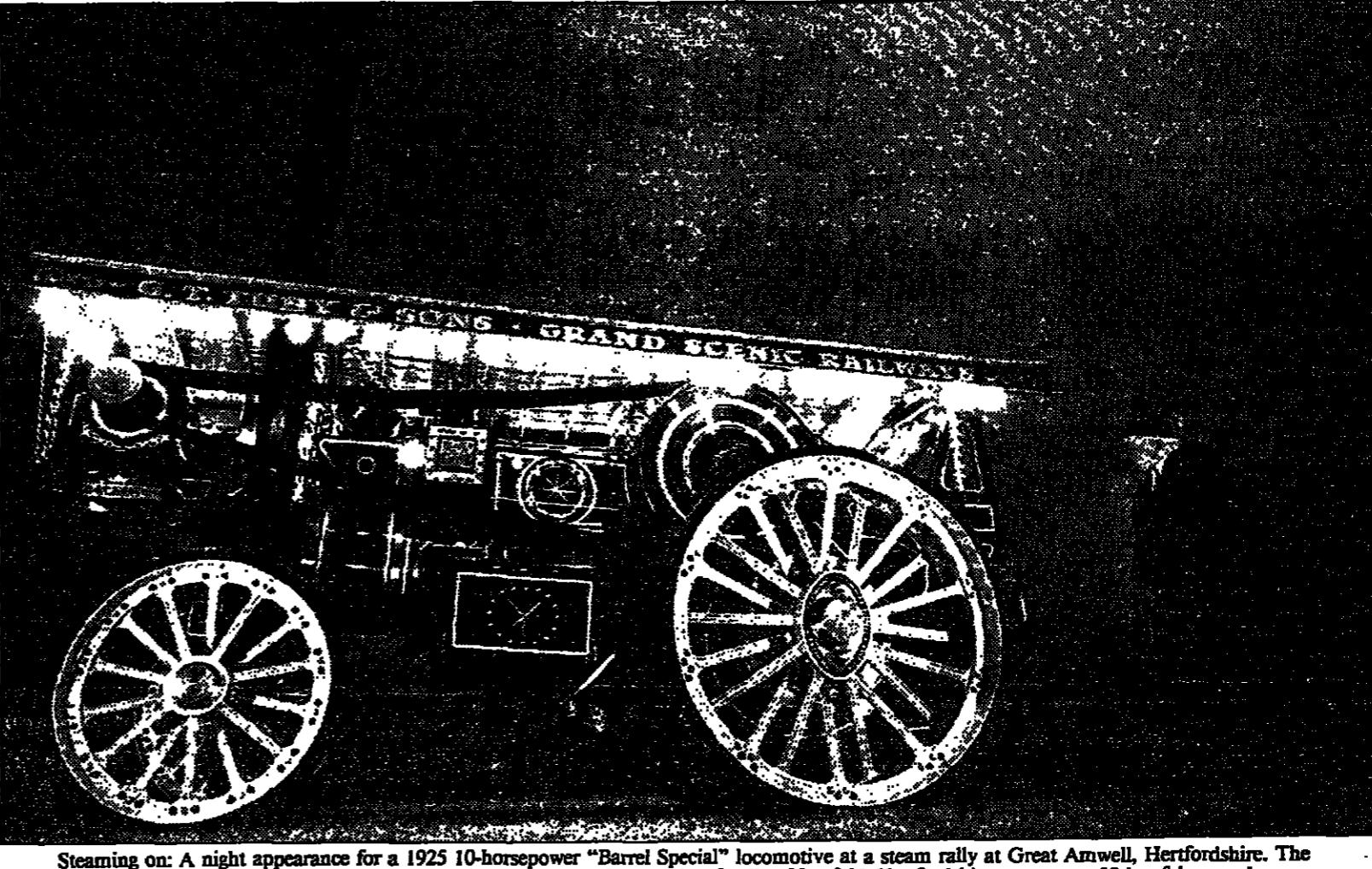
A leak from a storage tank on an industrial estate in Westbury, Wiltshire, yesterday sparked a full scale alert with the fire brigade dispersing 6,000 litres of the unknown flammable solvent with foam.

Two firefighters were taken to hospital suffering from burns.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond draw are £100,000, 24RL 99429 (Warwickshire), £50,000, 3LT 015076 (Isle of Wight); £25,000, 19DB 245461 (Birmingham).

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Honour overture, page 20



Steaming on: A night appearance for a 1925 10-horsepower "Barrel Special" locomotive at a steam rally at Great Amwell, Hertfordshire. The locomotive, the only one of its kind to be built, is now used by the Saunders family of Stotfold, Hertfordshire, to power a 98-key fairground organ

European hospitals to help IRA hunt

From IAN MURRAY, BONN

HOSPITALS, doctors and chemists in north-western Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands have been asked to help trace the IRA terrorist who killed Major Michael Dillon-Lee in Dortmund on June 2. Police believe he was injured after the murder when his car smashed through a roadblock and later crashed into a ditch north of the city.

According to Herr Rolf Hannich of the state prosecutor's office, blood stains were found inside the abandoned Mazda 323. They showed that at least one of the two terrorists was bleeding heavily although it was not yet possible to tell whether this was from a bullet wound or from cuts caused when the vehicle crashed.

Herr Jochen Rzeniech-Weyers, the detective heading the investigation, yesterday said he believed that the gunman who killed the artillery officer was shot by police manning the roadblock.

The car was found an hour later and it was obvious that the two gunmen had been unable to make a quick clean escape.

Unlike the terrorists who shot two Australians in The Netherlands a week earlier, the two fair-haired men in the car had not set fire to the stolen vehicle to destroy fingerprints or other clues. They had also abandoned some of their equipment, including the butt of a rifle which could have fitted the AK-47 assault rifle used for the killing, as well as a 9mm Browning pistol, 110 rounds of ammunition and a two-way radio, which was probably used to call up help to escape after the Mazda crashed.

The blood stains also showed that at least one of the two was injured, but police did not want this information released at once because they hoped that by secretly alerting hospitals and doctors to look out for an injured, English-speaking man, they might catch the killers.

Mr Tom Parker, aged 21, one of the guests and a student at the London School of Economics, said there was a loud bang, followed by a shower of glass and screams, as people realized they were injured. Some of the men took

Bomb victims had 'last minute change of plan'

By LIN JENKINS

Strike action by junior doctors to be considered

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S 28,000 junior doctors are to consider strike action in protest at the Government's failure to reduce their working hours.

The British Medical Association's annual junior doctors' conference at the weekend decided to conduct a postal survey of all members on industrial action, as a result of growing frustration at the lack of progress in cutting their average 90-hour week.

Dr Graeme McDonald, the junior doctors' chairman, said the postal survey, which will be sent out in the next few weeks, would ask a number of questions about the type of action that doctors would be prepared to take. That could range from refusing to do certain clerical duties, a work to rule, to a full strike. If doctors agreed to take action, a formal ballot would then be

held, Dr McDonald said. Any consequent strike call would need the backing of the full BMA council.

Calls for national ballots on industrial action have fallen in recent years but Dr McDonald said that doctors were becoming impatient. "This demonstrates the strength or feeling among junior doctors over the Government's failure to take immediate action over junior doctors' hours."

"In the interests of doctors and patients, junior doctors around the country must have the opportunity to make their views known."

Doctors were now extremely angry that Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, had achieved so little to improve their working conditions, despite several meetings with her and Mr David Mellor, her predecessor, over the past two years.

"Mrs Bottomley has the powers to sort out the problem but there have been no conclusive results," Dr McDonald said. Junior doctors' leaders are pressing ministers to introduce legislation for a maximum 84-hour week, dropping to 72 hours by 1992. Contracts should be altered in advance of legislation to reflect this decision, and where doctors worked over 84 hours a week they should be given more than the basic hourly rate.

"The average working week is still 90 hours, with significant numbers of the less experienced juniors doing over 100 hours a week," he said.

The conference heard that doctors had fallen asleep while driving their cars after a long stretch of duty, and one doctor had miscalculated a drug dosage.

• Many patients have to wait months for treatment in unnecessary pain because family doctors are not allowed to refer them directly to physiotherapists, according to a report published today.

The joint report from the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) criticizes the practice in some areas of GPs having to refer patients to consultants instead of sending them straight to a physiotherapist. It claims that this lack of open access can cause patients unnecessary suffering, lead to longer and more costly treatment and loss of income through sickness absence.

"Making patients wait in pain when they could go straight to a physiotherapy department for treatment is unfair, unreasonable and unacceptable," Mr John Lee, chairman of the report's working party, says. About 25 per cent of health districts barred GPs from referring NHS patients straight to a physiotherapist, mainly due to opposition from consultants and lack of resources, the report says. It urges health authorities to take immediate action to ensure that all members of the community have equal access to the full range of physiotherapy services.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, interviewed on the same programme, was backed by Mr Jerry Hayes, Conservative MP for Harlow, a member of the Commons social services committee. "The Secretary of State has got to get more money in the short term to cushion the impact of the reforms. If we don't get more money the electoral consequences could be very damaging."

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, interviewed on the same programme, said he was confident he would get extra money from the Treasury, in line with previous years. He said, however, that he envisaged a tough battle with Mr Norman Lamont, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Mr Clarke said: "We have kept spending ahead of inflation every year since we have been in. I have no intention of slowing down the expansion of the services at the present stage. Whilst inflation remains up we can't allow that to squeeze the health service, to reverse what we have achieved in the last few years."

He indicated there would be next no substantial increase next year to ease the NHS reforms in. "I got new money last year and I will get new money this year. But I must accept that there are limits. We cannot expect spending on the health service to rise faster than in previous years and no one is expecting this."

This year Mr Clarke secured an extra £2.4 billion for the NHS, and he is believed to be asking for an extra £3 billion next year. Health authorities have maintained, however, most of this year's money was eaten up by inflation and under-funded pay awards.



Mrs Bottomley: Accused by doctors of inaction

Opencast mining protesters to lobby MPs on health hazards

By BRONWEN JONES

DELEGATES from coalfield communities, where more than six million Britons live, will lobby Parliament this week to try to stop opencast coal mining.

Drawn from dusty hamlets or from neat suburbs, the 200 representatives believe opencast mining, which excavates an area the size of Cardiff each year, causes irreparable damage to the landscape and to the health of people and animals living in its shadow.

Miss Susan Waters from Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, who recently set up People against Opencast, said yesterday: "British Coal or the smaller mining companies used to pick communities off one by one. Together we will be able to afford lawyers as skilled as theirs. British Coal is like a steamroller. When it wants a site, it pushes and

pushes until it gets it. They are quick to excavate and very slow to reinstate. Areas mined 50 years ago have still not been restored."

The delegates who will lobby Parliament on Wednesday come from most corners of the country. Although a coachload will set off from the Nottingham area, most communities are stretched to afford a minibus, and several Scottish villages clubbed together to pay the air fare for a lone representative. Old people have saved their pennies and younger people have taken holiday to travel from Tordmorden and chorley in Lancashire, Tinsley Park in Sheffield, Rotherham, Stoke on Trent and Cheadle in Derbyshire, Newcastle upon Tyne and from Durham.

The health problems believed to be related to opencast mining include a

large increase in asthma incidence; febrile otitis media, an ear infection that slows learning in children; stomach and pancreatic cancers; and foetal abnormality. There is evidence that a selenium deficiency in cattle is related to dust ingestion, and farmers near Coventry believe the reason for their cattle absorbing foetuses may be linked to a neighbouring mine and coal treatment plant.

British Coal said yesterday: "Opencast coal is about the cheapest form of energy in Britain. It is energy that's in the national interest to use. It's a viable operation because you don't need the infrastructure of a coal mine, and it earns profits for the coal industry. It is a temporary industrial activity. You can work the reserves and restore the land. We have a high reputation for our standard of reclamation."



"Trooper" Tim Farnsworth passes a horseriding Duke of Cambridge in Whitehall

Battle of Naseby at No 10

By DAVID YOUNG

THE new gates guarding Downing Street, reportedly able to withstand a modern-day terrorist, were certainly able to cope with the pikes and muskets of Roundheads and Cavaliers yesterday.

They had arrived to present a petition opposing the building of a road across the site, in Northamptonshire, of the battle of Naseby, the conclusive action in the Civil War.

Members of the Sealed Knot laid wreaths at the statue of Oliver Cromwell outside the Houses of Parliament and at the statue of Charles I in Trafalgar Square, and presented a piece of turf from Naseby at Downing Street.

The bringing of the news of victory for Parliament at Naseby on June 14, 1645, was re-enacted, with the addition of a message for Mrs Thatcher.

After Oliver Cromwell's report of his victory against the King's army had been read to men in Civil War uniform, a small group delivered the turf, and a letter to the Prime Minister, appealing to her to preserve "England's most historic battlefield" against a plan to build an M1-A1 link across it.

The battlefield, described by Mr Michael Foot, the former Labour leader, as "one of the birthplaces of democracy in the UK", would be destroyed, according to leaders of the campaign to save it.

Mr Kelvin van Hassett, the Save Naseby Battlefield Campaign co-ordinator, said: "The trouble is that I don't think this country is aware how important Naseby is. The battle assured the system of Parliament in this country, which was copied worldwide. Naseby should become a place of pilgrimage to be visited by people like Mr Gorbachov."

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SAB

Some prisons 'more than 50% overcrowded'

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

TEN prisons in England and Wales are more than 50 per cent overcrowded, while several hold almost twice as many inmates as they should, according to a report today.

The report by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro), which comes as prison officers in England and Wales prepare to vote on a call for industrial action over jail staffing levels, says that overcrowding remains a severe problem. In February, 10,556 inmates were doubled up in cells designed for one, while 3,333 were sharing three to a cell, the report says.

Leeds prison has the worst figures. On March 31, the report says, it held 1,223 prisoners in accommodation designed for 627, making it 95 per cent overcrowded.

Next worst was Bedford jail, with 332 inmates in accommodation designed for a maximum of 171 (88 per cent overcrowded), followed by Birmingham (75 per cent overcrowded) and Leicester (72 per cent overcrowded).

The fifth most densely populated was Strangeways, Manchester, which on March 31 was holding 1,646 prisoners, 649 (65 per cent) more than it should. The next day saw the start of the Strangeways riots.

The report, while highlighting a difficulty that has dogged the prison service for the past 15 years, also gives a clue to which jails are likely to be selected for action by the Prison Officers' Association if, as expected, its ballot produces a big majority in favour of action.

Details of tactics will be completed after the vote but the association has suggested that it is likely to follow the

A GRENADA

The week ahead

Today Lord Justice Woolf opens inquiry into Strangeways prison riots. Annual conference of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers in Weymouth.

Tomorrow National Cot Death Appeal Week launched in London. Health Education Authority and Alcohol Concern's National Drinkwise Day. Royal Society of Medicine conference on 30 years of the pillar.

Wednesday The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend reception to mark 50th anniversary of General de Gaulle's call to the Free French. Prince Edward opens Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, London. Publication of Commission for Racial Equality's annual report.

Thursday The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend reception to mark 50th anniversary of General de Gaulle's call to the Free French. Prince Edward opens Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, London. Publication of Commission for Racial Equality's annual report.

Friday Mrs Thatcher hosts summit to aid British film industry. Sir Leon Brittan, a vice-president of the EC Commission, speaks at a luncheon in London held by the American Chamber of Commerce. First international conference on the Valley of the Kings and Tutankhamun opens at Highclere Castle, near Newbury, Berkshire, to mark 75th anniversary of excavations by Fifth Earl of Carnarvon and Howard Carter.

Saturday EC and Eastern European Ministers meet in Dublin to discuss environmental concerns. The Queen attends Trooping the Colour ceremony to mark her official birthday. Birthday Honours List published.

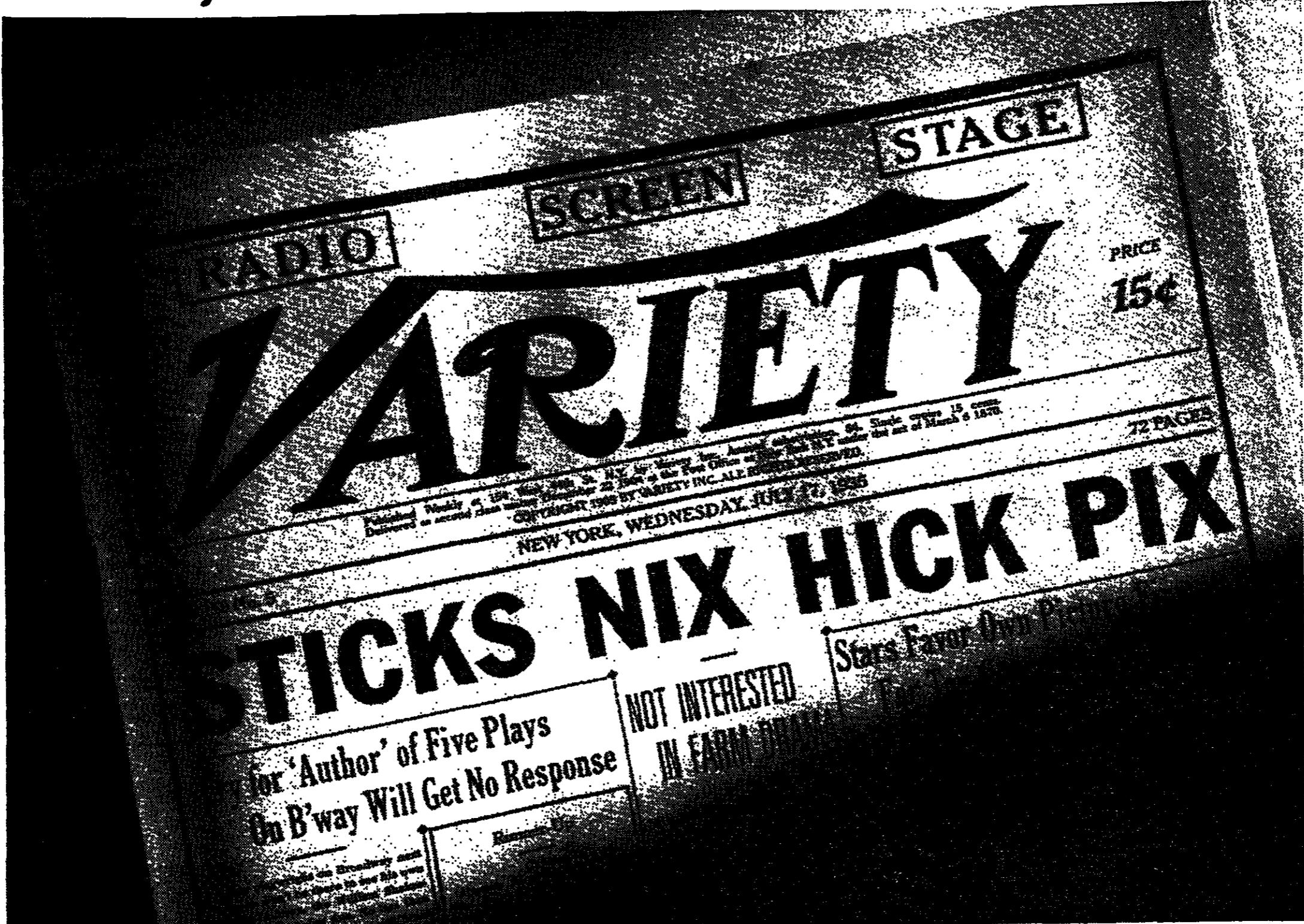
Sunday Second day of recreation of the Battle of Waterloo, to mark 175th anniversary, at Mont-St Jean. Daddy of the Year named on Father's Day at Waldorf Hotel, London.

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Call to end 'modish' training of teachers

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

ALL graduate teachers should be trained on the job and university education departments closed, a right-wing think tank says in a report today.

Teacher training is failing to produce well-educated teachers and concentrates too much on "modish" educational methods, emphasizing sociology and psychology rather than knowledge of their subject. Dr Sheila Lawlor, of the Centre for Policy Studies, says. She proposes that graduates go straight into schools as trainee teachers for a year's on-the-job training in either primary or secondary schools.

She also says that the bachelor of education degree should be replaced with a certificate of advanced study taught in the former teacher-training institutions. The certificate would be open to all school-leavers but those who decided to become teachers would be eligible for a year's training in primary schools and would not be able to teach in secondary schools. Dr

Call for workers' training breaks

By KEVIN EASON

RADICAL proposals to force employers to allow workers time off for training and careers counselling are suggested to the Government today in a report by Full Employment UK, the independent policy group.

The report calls for a more ambitious approach to training to challenge "widespread indifference" in industry. The report, which will be given to Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, later this month, calls for a statutory training entitlement to back up the work now going on in the Training Enterprise Councils (TECs).

Moves supported by legislation would include free counselling vouchers for unskilled, low-paid workers to draw up their own personal training plan, low-interest loans to top up grants from employers, and a duty levied on employers to pay for training costs.

A key proposal is to allow all employees two days a year for training. Those days could be accumulated with one employer over five years to give two weeks' paid leave for training or career development.

Mr Peter Ashby, a director of Full Employment UK, said that the Government had not developed a "strong enough vision" to set up and organize TECs successfully. He said: "Instead of leading a training crusade, too many TECs are bogged down with bureaucratic wrangles over budget cuts. All they are offered by ministers are platitudes about lifelong learning with no strategy for how to achieve it."

Meanwhile, a report by the Institute of Manpower Studies claims that employers are slow to attract older workers to fill vacancies created by labour shortages. The report, *Employers' Attitudes to Older Workers*, says that most employers are bound by pre-conceived ideas about the abilities of mature staff.

Leading article, page 15
Education, pages 18, 19

Oldest man dies peacefully at 112

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

MR JOHN Evans, the world's oldest man, died peacefully at his home yesterday at the age of 112.

The former miner, who thoroughly enjoyed the publicity which surrounded each birthday, passed away in his sleep in a chair beside his bed at his cottage in Fforest-fach, West Glamorgan, after saying for a number of days that he was feeling unwell. He was declared the world's oldest man last December by the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Mrs Betty Evans, his daughter-in-law, said: "A big gap has been left in our lives. Everyone will always have such happy memories of him."

Born in 1877, Mr Evans made medical history when at 108 he became the oldest person to be fitted with a heart pacemaker and astounded doctors when he was able to return home three days later. On his 110th birthday, Mr Evans made national headlines when he travelled to London on an InterCity 125 as a guest of British Rail, on his first visit to the capital.



John Evans: Long life based on abstinence

Disputes flare up as a Victorian wonder decays

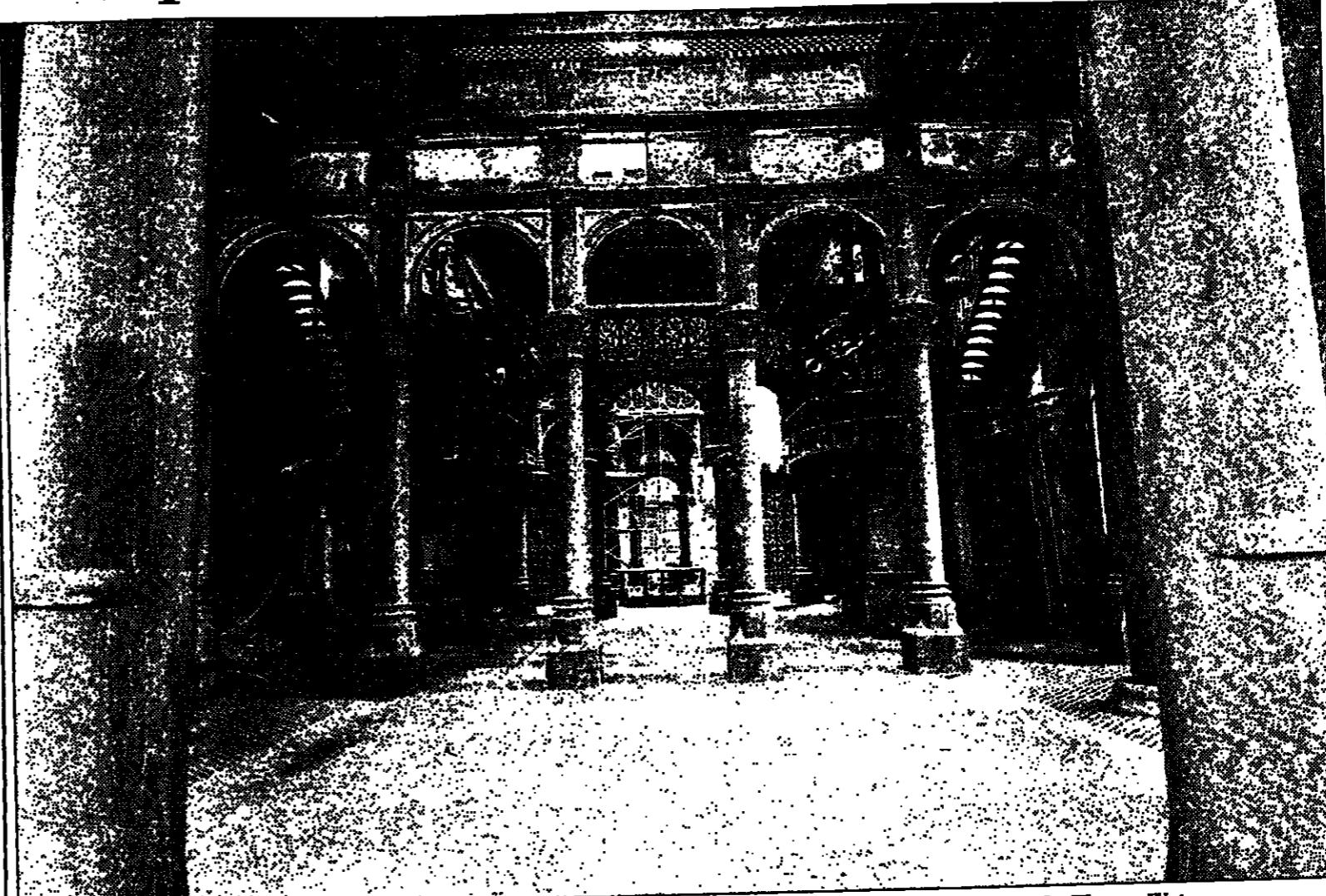
DENZIL MCNEILANCE

By JOHN YOUNG

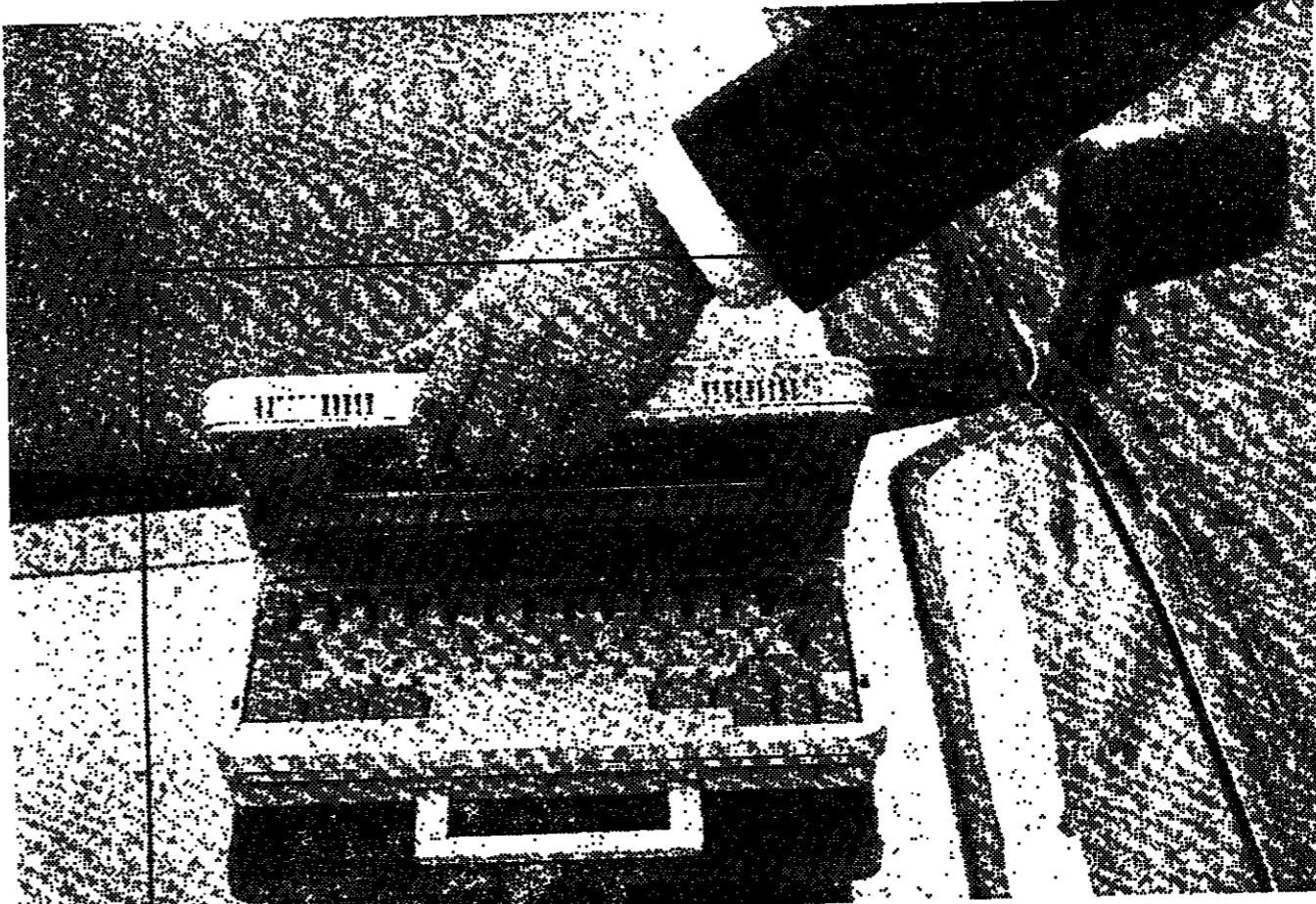
ONE of London's most notable monuments to Victorian engineering is the subject of a dispute between its owners, the recently privatized Thames Water, and a charity set up to restore it. The Crossness sewage works at Thamesmead were built by Sir Joseph Bazalgette in 1865; as part of his revolutionary scheme for the disposal of the capital's night soil.

So great was public enthusiasm that the official opening was attended by the Prince of Wales and by the archbishops of Canterbury and York. *The Times* praised the project as "a sure expression of improved public morality". Now the buildings, idle since the early 1950s, are decaying badly. In 1985 the Crossness Engines Trust began restoration with the promise of £50,000 from the former Thames Water Authority.

The trust has since obtained a £100,000 grant from English Heritage for roof repairs and hopes to raise £2 million to establish a working museum of steam. But last October members of the trust, including architects, engineers and surveyors, were abruptly refused access to the site by security staff. Thames Water said trust volunteers had blatantly ignored health and safety regulations. Mr John Ridley, the trust's chairman, a former factory inspector and author of a book on industrial safety, dismissed the accusations as "nonsense". "It is decaying," he said.



Solitary decay: The 135-year-old Crossness sewage works where restoration workers have been barred by Thames Water



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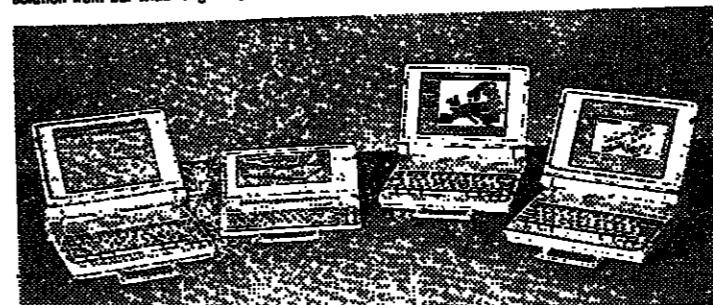
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Pregnant girls' benefits setback

By JILL SHERMAN

YOUNG pregnant women are suffering from homelessness and poverty as a result of the Government's move to withdraw social security benefit from 16 and 17-year-olds, it is claimed today.

A report published by the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux says that a number of pregnant women come into its offices with no income, no home and no training place. Some women were afraid to attend antenatal clinics for fear of losing their Youth Training Scheme places if their employer learnt they were pregnant.

The report, based on more than 150 cases of young people in hardship, describes cases of teenagers who lost or cannot find places on YTS schemes because of pregnancy. A 17-year-old was refused YTS places twice because of her pregnancy. Her mother was on income support and could not support her daughter. If she left home she would not be entitled to benefit as she would be "internally homeless".

Young people and benefits – the continuing crisis (Parliamentary Unit, NACAB, 115-123 Pentonville Road, London N1 9LZ; A4 2sp see).

Option of sending Nazi suspects to homeland studied

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

HOME Office officials are examining the prospects of extraditing suspected Nazi war criminals from Britain back to their homelands in the Baltic republics as an alternative to reintroducing the war crimes legislation.

Although the Home Office's first choice is another attempt at changing the law to mount war crimes trials in Britain, the option of extradition is being actively studied. With the move to democracy in Lithuania and Latvia, the chances of the key suspects identified in the confidential section of the Hetherington-Chalmers report receiving a fair trial if extradited are increasing.

Extradition was one of the options recommended in the report, as most of the surviving witnesses who could testify against the suspects live in former Nazi-occupied territory in the Baltic republics. Sir Thomas Hetherington, former Director of Public Prosecutions, however, opted for legislation as his preferred course.

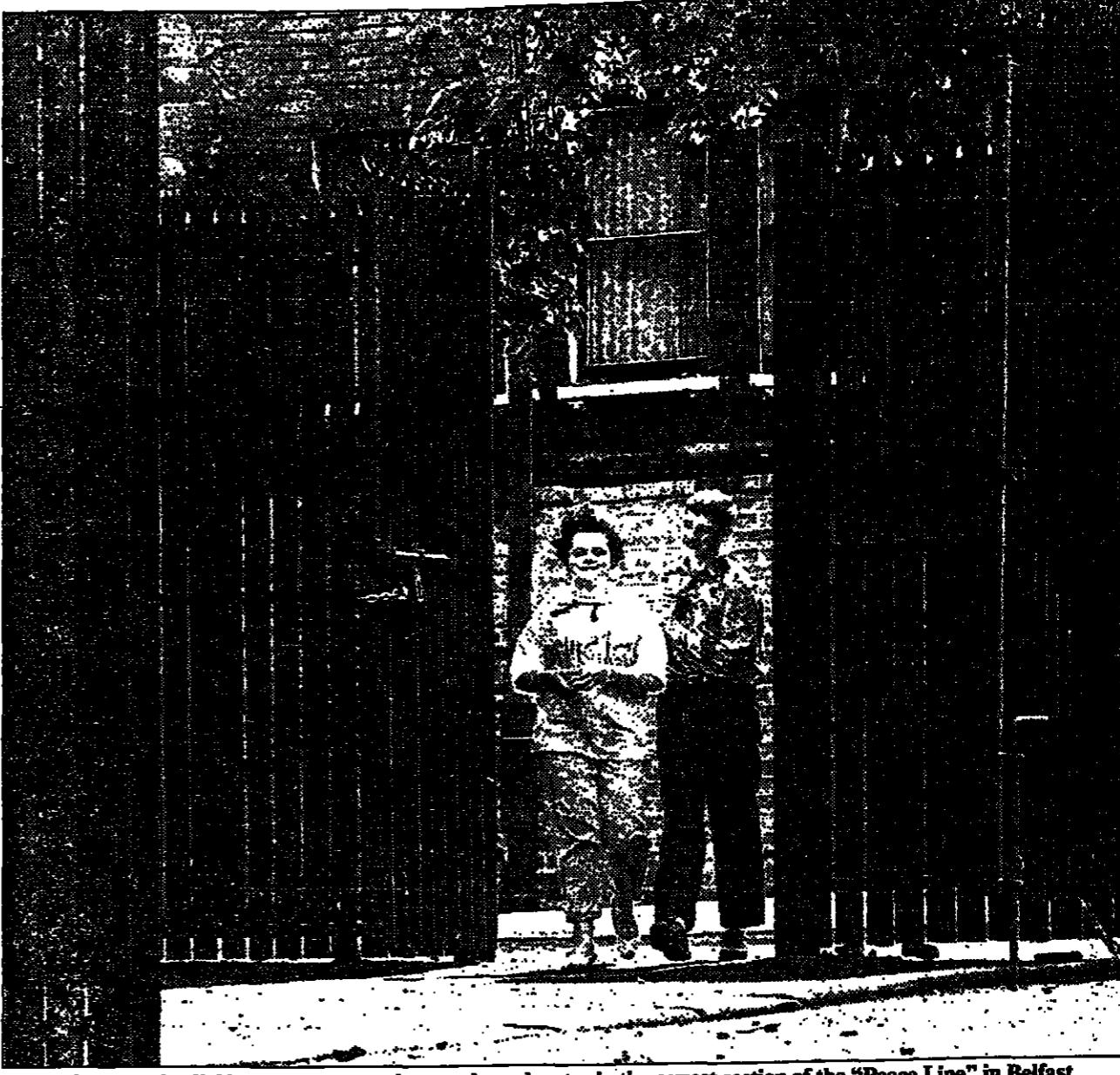
With growing scepticism in the Cabinet about the political wisdom of reintroducing the

War Crimes Bill next session, officials are not ruling out sending a few suspects back to the Baltic republics to demonstrate that Britain refuses to be a safe haven for war criminals.

The House of Lords is considered unlikely to vote against it a second time at second reading, but peers could still delay it for months by tabling endless amendments during committee, report and third reading stages.

Such tactics next summer could clash with attempts by the Government to clear the business before the next general election. A private member's Bill, introduced by an individual backbench MP, would stand virtually no chance of surviving in the Lords.

There is general consensus at Westminster, however, that a signal is needed to demonstrate Britain's revision at the rise in anti-semitism. Sir Geoffrey Howe, deputy Prime Minister and Commons Leader, is in favour of a fresh Commons debate and vote before any attempt to reintroduce the legislation next session to test MPs' convictions. Only half the 650 MPs took part in the original votes, which were overwhelmingly in favour of legislation.

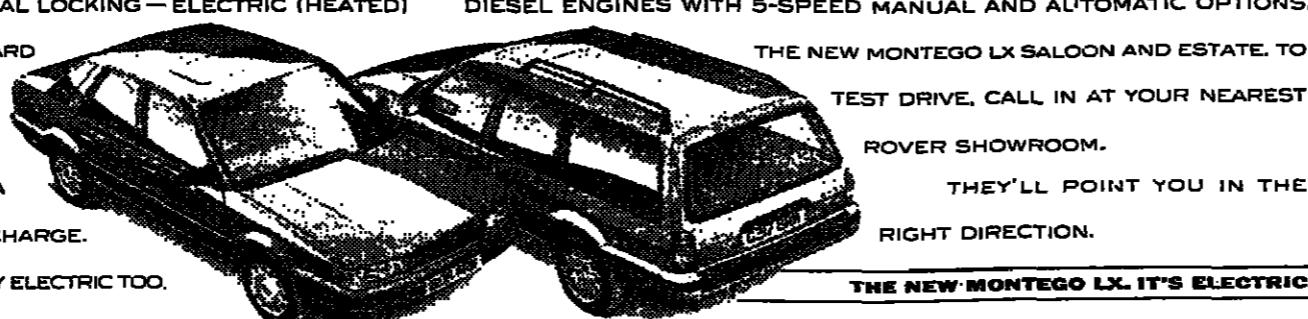


Crossing the divide: two young people pass through gates in the newest section of the "Peace Line" in Belfast

WHAT HAS THE NEW MONTEGO LX GOT OVER THE COMPETITION? (HERE ARE A FEW POINTERS.)



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THE NEW MONTEGO LX. IT'S ELECTRIC.

Gates close on hopes of end to Ulster strife

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

FOR a while, towards the end of last year, as revolution swept Eastern Europe and the Berlin Wall started to crumble, some in Northern Ireland cherished hopes that 1990 might be a year of reconciliation.

"It's a pity they have to be put up, but it's a good idea," he said, leaning on his front gate, feeding the pigeons.

"There's no reason why the two communities shouldn't live together," he added. "It all boils down to religion, even though we all worship the same God."

People of all ages believe that, now up, the gates of Adam Street will not come down for a very long time. Asked when the gates will go, pensioners and teenage mothers alike answer without hesitation: "Not in my lifetime."

The Provisional IRA is hard at its work, in and out of the province. "Loyalist" paramilitaries have been doing their fair share, and in Belfast, the capital of the troubles, Ireland's own Berlin Wall was being extended even last week.

In the closely knit "loyalist" enclaves of Tiger Bay, in north Belfast, the construction of the so-called Peace Line, blocking Adam Street to the Roman Catholics of the neighbouring New Lodge, is regarded as the sad but unavoidable consequence of 20 years of sectarian violence.

Ugly, 50 ft green steel gates are the latest addition to the line, which, in various parts of the city has protected one community from the other since the summer of 1969. In Tiger Bay, the gates are there to shut the Protestants in at night or to block the street at short notice to invading republican or "loyalist" mobs.

An old man who lives in a Victorian terrace daubed with "loyalist" slogans and who in his youth served in the Army on the old Indian border with long been a way of life.

Australia goes back in time

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

HUMANS first reached Australia more than 50,000 years ago, pushing back the earliest known occupation by 20,000 years, according to datings of excavations in the Northern Territory. Because there has always been open sea between Australia and the Indonesian archipelago, the dates also show that navigation and seafaring are of equal antiquity.

The dates come from the site of Malakunjanja II, at the foot of the western Arnhem Land escarpment. "This area has one of the greatest diversities of plants, fish and animals in northern Australia," Dr Rhys Jones, of the Australian National University, who carried out the recent excavations, said.

The Malakunjanja deposits are 4.6 metres (15ft) deep and formed by sand particles eroding from the face of the escarpment. The early human occupations had occurred on the sandy surfaces as they built up over time.

Dr Jones said: "The bottom of the deposit is dated to 110,000 years, but there are no artefacts from there up to 2.5 metres' depth. From there upwards a large number of artefacts are found. We may

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Bad hygiene, not eggs, 'caused salmonella scare'

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE £3 million of taxpayer's money devoted to combating the salmonella-in-eggs affair has been a waste of time and money, according to a new report published today.

It argues that poor standards of hygiene, particularly in the kitchens of public institutions, and not contaminated eggs, lie behind the sharp increase in salmonella food poisoning over the past few years.

It says that the measures taken by the Government to curb the organism, such as slaughtering more than a million hens at a cost of over £1 million, have failed to have any impact on levels of salmonella food poisoning.

The report, published by the Institute of Economic Affairs, a Tory think tank, contradicts government policy. That holds that bacterial infection of eggs represented a "serious public health problem" and led to health warnings to the public and measures aimed at controlling the disease, such as compulsory bacteriological monitoring of poultry flocks.

The report says that the scientific evidence does not justify the connection made by the Public Health Laboratory Service (PHLS) government scientists and ministers between outbreaks of salmonella food poisoning and eggs. According to Mrs Teresa Gorman, the Conservative MP for Billerica and a co-author of the study, the

public were "hoaxed" by the "bogus" science and politics that combined to fuel the scare and led to the resignation of Mrs Edwina Currie, an Under-Secretary of State for Health, early last year.

Mrs Gorman said that the PHLIS should be privatized and that those responsible for failing to analyse properly food poisoning outbreaks should be dismissed. The report says: "On the very few occasions where salmonella has been found in intact eggs, it has been isolated in doses far too low to cause disease."

"If present, it does not appear that significant multiplication of bacteria can occur. Furthermore, the incidence of salmonella in eggs is probably very low. This, combined with the low doses and the inability of salmonella to multiply in the egg, means that eggs could hardly make a meaningful contribution to the current food poisoning figures."

The report, co-authored by Mr Richard North, an adviser to the United Kingdom Egg Producers Association and a researcher at Leeds Polytechnic, cites a survey of 17,000 eggs taken from an infected commercial battery flock. It found only five contaminated eggs, and suggests that with levels of internal contamination running at no more than 10 organisms per egg, these presented no risk to human health. "Given that

up to 100 million organisms are required to cause illness in a healthy adult, it seems virtually inconceivable that adults or even children could suffer food poisoning from an intact or freshly broken out egg, raw or cooked."

Mrs Gorman says in the report that eggs provided ministers with a "quick and easy answer" to the salmonella scare and that once they had started out on this course, they found it difficult to retreat.

"Fed ill-researched briefings, the unfortunate Secretary of State John MacGregor, appeared only too willing to join in the condemnation of the egg industry, while ill-researched briefings from the PHLIS were fed through the Department of Health into the red boxes of ministers like Edwina Currie, who were prepared to go public."

The report includes a detailed analysis of 19 of the 46 salmonella food poisoning outbreaks that lay behind the statement by Mrs Currie that most egg production was infected with salmonella. The report says evidence of intact raw eggs causing contamination in mayonnaise is inconclusive.

Chickengate: An independent analysis of the Salmonella in Eggs Survey by Richard North and Teresa Gorman (IEA Health and Welfare Unit, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB; £4.95 inc p&p)

Two-into-one boat makes its river debut

JOE MCKEEWON



The boats in the foreground and on the right undergoing trials on the Waveney at Bungay, Suffolk, have been taken on a separate life but they can be joined together to form the longer vessel pictured behind them. The "hypozomatic" boat is the brainchild of Mr Frank Welsh (left foreground) and his brother Peter (right) and it applies the techniques of the Greek trireme of 500 BC to the glass-fibre boat of today. The 170-oared triremes were held together by hypozomata, or stout cables.

Today's boat uses a stainless steel wire instead. The fibre-glass boat comes in two halves fitting on top of each other, like a walnut shell, for towing. At the river, canal or lake the top half is lifted, wheels removed at both halves joined to make the 26ft puzzle-like vessel in the background.

Ball and socket joints hold the halves in position to run the hypozomata, or stainless steel wire, through. The boat can be divided into two 13ft boats by slipping off the wire. The makers claim that the

separation will take two people "a leisurely 20 minutes". The after-half has a well for an outboard motor and while the powered half can explore river or canal the other half can be left moored to provide a berth or cook's quarters. Production has started at Kempston, Bedfordshire, and the first models are available for sale or hire. They can be bought in one-half or two-half form from £1,200 to nearly £3,000, according to the extras bought. The makers claim that conventional boats normally cost much more.

Pomp and mayhem over Hills proposal

By CRAIG SETON

THE Malvern Hills, the inspiration for much of the music of the English composer Sir Edward Elgar, are now ringing with angry protest over plans for a £6 million hotel development.

Mr Martin Roberts, owner of the eight-bed B&B Wellington Hotel, is meeting fierce opposition to his plans for a 96-bedroom extension to the Victorian building, which is half-way to the top of the 1,395-foot high Worcestershire Beacon, the highest point on the range of hills.

He has received angry letters and telephone calls, his business is suffering and local people have formed a Malvern Hills protection group to try and defeat his plans, in spite of his assurances that the development will be contoured into the side of the hill and screened by trees. Malvern Hills District Council is to meet next month to consider the hotel plans.

Elgar, who died in 1934, spent 13 years living in Malvern and some of his most famous works were inspired by daily walks on the hills. His godson, Mr Wulstan Atkins, chairman of the Elgar Foundation, said: "There is no doubt the hills greatly influenced much of his work and obviously all Elgar lovers would not wish them to suffer any drastic change." Mrs Mary Geffen, coordinator of the protection group, said local people hated the idea of the hotel extension, which would include a swimming pool and parking for 100 vehicles. "The atmosphere of the whole area would change. It will damage the hills." Mr Chris Bonington, aged 55, the Everest mountaineer, who sometimes runs on the hills, said: "Surely there are other areas for a hotel which are less sensitive?"

Mr Roberts defended his proposals for the hotel extension. He said people wanted accommodation in the area and he sometimes had to turn customers away. He added: "I have no intention of spoiling the hills."

Legal Bill delayed as agreement is sought

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to delay completion of the Commons committee stage of the Courts and Legal Services Bill for a week while it seeks a compromise with the legal profession over proposals to restrict a client's right to choose a barrister or a solicitor to represent him in the crown court.

The issue, the main stumbling block of the Bill, will be discussed at a top-level meeting today between leaders of the Bar, the Law Society and representatives from the Lord Chancellor's Department.

Both branches of the profession, as well as consumer groups such as the Consumers' Association and the National Association for the Citizens' Advice Bureaux, oppose the proposals.

Tomorrow, the committee stage of the Bill will be completed save for the controversial clause 31 which, under a special procedural motion, has been deferred for one week. Under the Bill as it stands, the court could decide in a crown court case whether legal aid should be granted for a barrister or a solicitor, when crown courts are opened to solicitor-advocates.

The Government said that this does no more than enshrine the present powers of the courts under the legal aid regulations. Lawyers and consumer groups argue that at present this is of little effect because crown court work is confined mostly to the Bar.

They are concerned that the proposals would deny a legally aided client the right to choose to be represented by a barrister. It could also mean a big loss of work to the Bar, and impose on solicitors the need to represent clients in more crown court cases than they wish or can undertake.

The Lord Chancellor's Department has put forward modified proposals to try to meet objections. "There are options which would give the client choice without destroying the court's final decision on the level of representation."

Rents at record levels as house sales slump

A SURVEY

of residential rents in London's private sector has shown a sharp increase in charges in the past six months, suggesting that the expected expansion after the 1988 Housing Act has failed to provide more homes at lower prices (Christopher Warman writes).

The survey by the London Housing Unit monitored

private sector rents since November 1987.

As house sales slumped,

the rental market boomed,

and rents have reached record levels.

The results showed the

average monthly rent had

dropped for the cheapest prop-

erties only, such as a room or

bedsit, from £323 to £320.

The cost of renting flats and

houses with two to four bed-

rooms had risen from 7.9 per cent to 13.4 per cent.

Mr Peter Challis, chairman of the Association of London Authorities' housing committee, said: "These figures show that the Housing Act has failed to help precisely those Londoners in most need of good homes — people on low incomes."

The expansion of the voluntary housing movement received impetus from the 1988 Housing Act, but faces a new funding regime of greater risk, says *Housing Associations and Cooperatives: An Introduction*, published today. It explains the role of the "third force" in housing as an alternative to public sector housing and private owner/occupation and renting.

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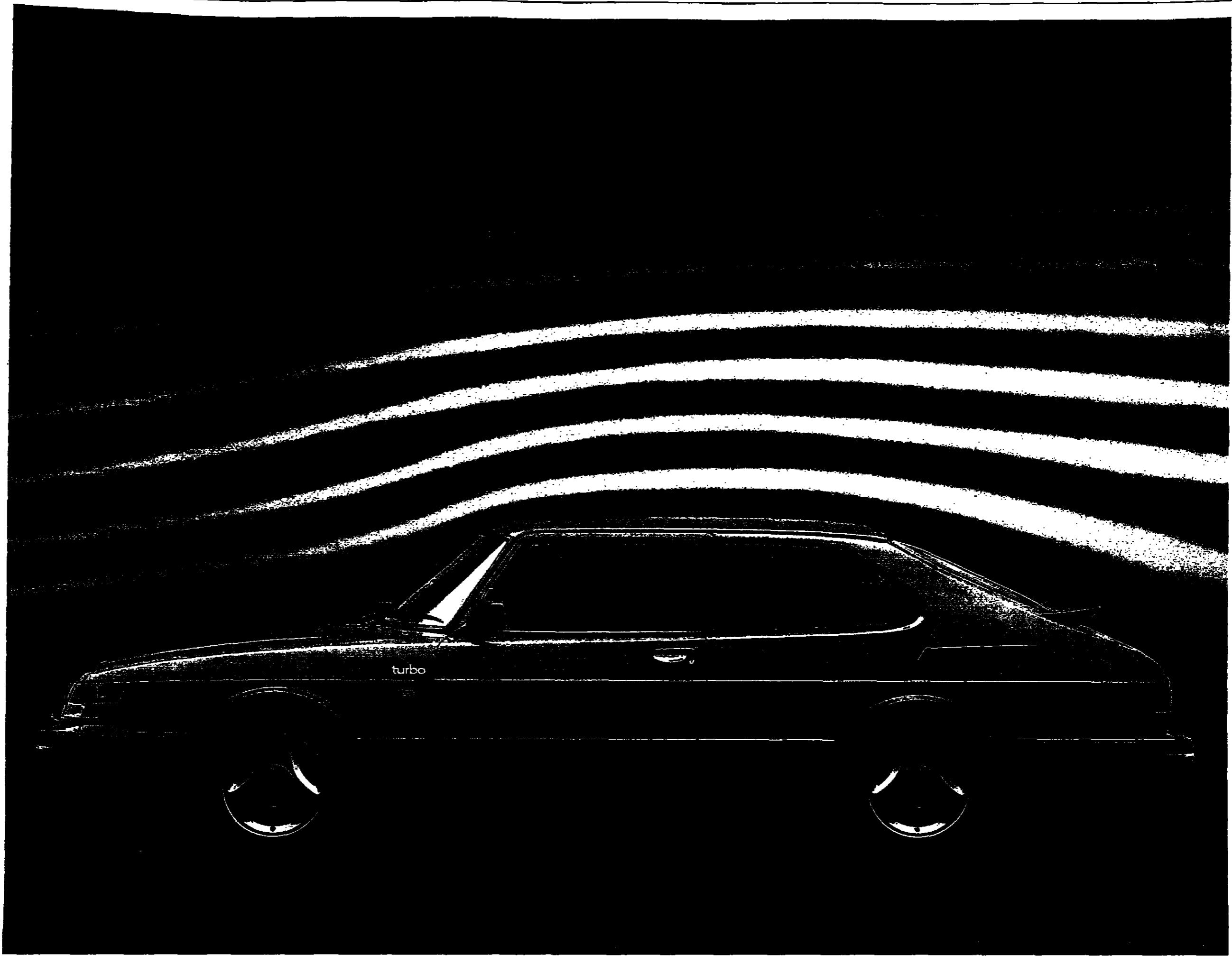
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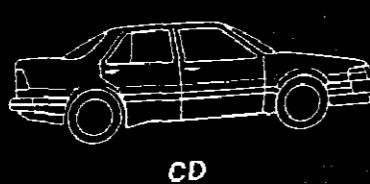
was devised, labelling everything clearly and putting everything within easy reach. Heated seats were conceived, because a warm pilot is a more responsive and safer one. As well as a list of passive and active safety features that help to make Saab one of the safest cars in the world.

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Government plans replacement body for Press Council

By JOHN LEWIS, POLITICAL STAFF

THE scrapping of the Press Council and its replacement by a new body to meet criticism of newspaper intrusion and other "offences" is to be proposed by the Government.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, has accepted the main thrust of what are regarded as robust recommendations by the Calcutt committee set up by his predecessor, Mr Douglas Hurd, nine months ago.

The announcement of the committee's findings and the Government's response, expected in the next week or so, is likely to ruffle the feathers of some newspaper editors and owners. Ministers have been impressed by the firm manner in which the committee has tackled its task.

The committee and the Government are understood to have been unimpressed by newspapers' appointment of their own ombudsmen to see that their publications do not act outrageously. Even the latest code of conduct agreed by the editors of national newspapers is thought to be inadequate. The Government, however,

is, in effect, to keep newspapers on probation.

The Home Secretary is expected to announce that the new body or "mechanism" on the lines of the Press Council will not be made statutory and will not be given a range of sanctions for the time being. Whether it is made statutory will depend on the performance of newspapers in the immediate future.

There are some consolations for the critics of consultation. The committee and the Government are understood to reject the case for separate legislation to protect the public from press intrusion and to give it the right of reply, along the lines of two unsuccessful private members' Bills put forward last year.

Ministers believe there are difficulties in drawing a line between where the press has a legitimate interest in the private lives of people in the news and where it gratuitously oversteps the mark. Giving a right of reply also poses practical difficulties.

The final choice was between establishing a right to privacy and then making as secret.

The council also ruled that British Nuclear Fuels should have been allowed the right of reply when *Today* newspaper published a feature on the disposal of radioactive material, describing the operation as secret.



Last farewells: Julian Bream with one of his two lutes up for sale at Sotheby's in London on Thursday

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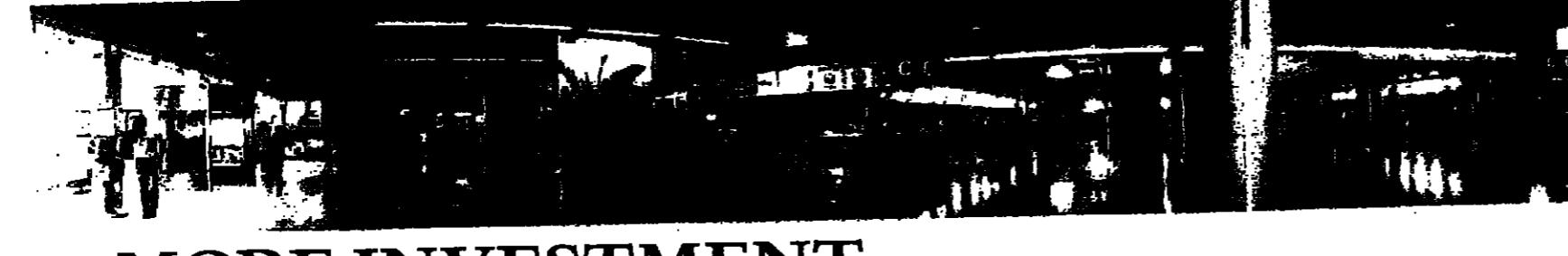
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Strings of romance go up for auction

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND
ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

JULIAN: Bream's relationships with his instruments are like the love affairs of lesser mortals. "When I know a guitar very well there is nothing left to discover, and in 40 years of playing I have gone through quite a few," the concert guitarist says.

It is not for lack of fascination, he insists however, that he is about to offload a bonyfide five guitars and two lutes at Sotheby's on Thursday. This will include two concert guitars by the Japanese maker Masana Kohno (£4,000 and £1,200); a modern copy of a *vihuela*, the 17th-century Spanish ancestor of the guitar and made specially for his television series on the history of the guitar (estimated value up to £2,000); and two lutes by the contemporary maker David Rubio.

At its peak, Mr Bream's collection contained 20 instruments. After this clear-out he will have 12. Every one has had to pass his resonance test. "They have to have quality of sound and be well-focused." Most have been played in concert halls. Mr Bream has no plans to attend the sale; he will be making music with one of the lucky 12.

Rain needed as crops die off

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

WINTER storms, spring frosts and now drought, only partially relieved by recent rainfall, have made the outcome of this year's harvest even more of a lottery than usual, according to farmers in the first of three annual crop surveys by *The Times*.

Crop growth was two to three weeks more advanced than normal, and farmers expected one of the earliest harvests on record. Disease, despite some concern about mildew and yellow and brown rust on wheat and barley, seemed less troublesome than last year.

More rain was needed to fill out crops that, at the end of the winter, had looked as good as in recent years, but were now starting to shrivel and die. Fears were rife that irrigation might be widely restricted, after a second winter of meagre rainfall failed to replenish low water-table levels.

Unless there is an inch of rain a week until the end of June it was feared there will be little cereal to harvest in the heart of the East Anglian "prairie" belt.

In Lincolnshire the fields were "akin to concrete", in Warwickshire the soil was very dry, and in parts of Berkshire crops were thin-on-the-ground.

Crops on heavier land, such as clay, which retains moisture, were faring better than

those on light soils, such as chalk. Autumn-sown cereals were doing much better than those drilled in the spring, which had suffered from the lack of rain acutely. Several farmers described their spring barley as a "write-off". Complaints of frost and storm damage to winter wheat and barley were widespread.

Frost has also taken a heavy toll of fruit crops. Growers in Kent, Somerset and Hereford and Worcester described stone fruit as "almost non-existent", with plums nearly wiped out. Cox's and Bramley's were said to be scarce, but cider apples looked promising.

Shortage of grass, if the weather remains hot and dry, was a widespread worry. Most farmers reported a good first cut of grass for silage making, but said regrowth had been minimal.

The mood was more buoyant further north. Farmers in Cumbria reported bumper hay and silage crops and excellent wheat and barley. Scottish farmers reported "excellent grazing" and promising crops.

In the south it was not all gloom. Many farmers said good rains in June could produce an excellent cereal crop, particularly on heavier lands. Oilseed rape was doing well.

● In the table below farmers were asked to rate the health and growth of their crops on a scale from 1 to 100.

Division 1	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	S beet	Grass
Bedford	90	83	85	90	80	80
Cambridge	87	87	90	81	82	88
Essex	88	88	93	90	93	84
Hertford	78	65	83	70	-	68
Humberside	90	90	95	-	-	90
Lincolnshire	88	70	95	95	73	85
Norfolk	87	80	87	80	91	87
Suffolk	88	85	86	85	88	80
Averages	87	81	89	89	85	79
Division 2						
Berkshire	86	85	80	-	-	80
Bedfordshire	85	80	90	-	-	40
Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kent	93	91	92	95	-	73
Leicestershire	83	77	89	87	83	59
Northamptonshire	75	80	85	80	-	59
Nottinghamshire	95	92	100	100	95	95
Oxford	87	78	96	93	-	89
Sussex	92	94	90	-	-	77
Wiltshire	90	94	95	100	-	73
Averages	88	85	92	91	89	74
Division 3						
Cornwall	-	85	-	100	-	83
Devon	75	73	88	82	-	51
Dorset	93	85	85	85	-	50
Gloscestershire	70	80	100	95	-	50
Hereford & Warks	92	82	89	94	93	84
Salop	87	84	87	85	77	74
Somerset	82	79	81	85	-	65
Wiltshire	85	61	87	80	-	77
Averages	83	81	90	82	85	70
Division 4						
Cheshire	96	94	95	83	-	92
Gloucester	90	80	80	90	-	80
Derbyshire	85	85	90	70	-	80
Durham	100	90	80	90	80	100
Lancashire	92	87	90	-	-	90
Northumberland	88	92	92	87	87	88
Staffordshire	83	79	76	79	82	88
Yorkshire	83	79	81	85	-	88
Averages	91	88	87	86	83	87
English Average	87	84	90	87	86	78
SCOTLAND						
Borders	90	80	100	95	-	80
Central	95	98	95	98	-	100
Dumfries/Galloway	95	98	-	-	-	-
Fife	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grampian	95	94	95	-	-	94
Highland	96	95	95	-	-	96
Lothian	93	90	93	96	-	85
Strathclyde	93	94	94	100	-	98
Tayside	88	85	90	94	-	82
Western Isles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average	91	91	94	97	-	-
WALES						
Chwyd	98	95	100	95	-	95
Card	95	93	90	95	-	78
Gwent	98	98	-	-	-	88
Gwynedd	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mid Glamorgan	80	60	90	84	-	75
Powys	75	80	-	-	-	70
South Glamorgan	100	83	100	-	-	-
West Glamorgan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average	91	85	95	88	-	81
Great Britain Avg	88	85	93	89	-	80

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Quebec deal by Mulroney may still run into trouble

From JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

AFTER a full week of intense, often bitter negotiations, Canadian political leaders have forged a constitutional reconciliation between French-speaking Quebec province and the rest of the country.

A document embodying the agreement was signed by Mr Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister, and the 10 provincial premiers at a ceremony which lasted into the early hours of yesterday.

Mr Mulroney, aglow with the success of the closed-door conference — the only part that was open was the signing ceremony — hailed the compact as "a bridge that will allow new generations of Quebecers to discover the glories of Canada".

Despite the euphoria, Quebec's formal reintegration into the Canadian constitutional fold — from which it has been isolated for eight years — remained far from certain. It still faces formidable obstacles in two of the English-speaking provinces, Newfoundland and Manitoba.

The agreement is intended to pave the way for ratification

Thousands held in Sind crackdown

Karachi — Pakistani authorities have arrested thousands of people in a crackdown on ethnic violence in the southern province of Sind, police and opposition spokesmen said yesterday.

An official for the opposition Mohajir National Movement put the arrests at 4,000 and said several hundred other people were missing since the crackdown began on May 15. A police official said 3,375 people had been arrested up to last Monday.

More than 260 people have been killed in the past fortnight in the latest upsurge of ethnic violence in the home province of Miss Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister. (Reuters)

Zaire massacre claim studied

Brussels — A Zairean government inquiry into an alleged massacre of students last month will pin the blame on regional officials and the governor of Shaba province will be recalled, Zaire's official news agency reported.

But the inquiry did not mention President Mobutu's elite personal guard, who witnesses have said carried out the murders of between 10 and 100 students on the night of May 11 in the southern city of Lubumbashi, in Shaba province.

The European Community has called on Zaire to allow an international inquiry into the alleged events at Lubumbashi. (Reuters)

Cosmonauts get fresh supplies

Moscow — A space module carrying food and water for two cosmonauts docked successfully with the space station Mir yesterday. Tass said. An earlier attempt, on Wednesday, failed when a computer shut down docking manoeuvres about two hours ahead of schedule.

The two cosmonauts have been in space aboard Mir for more than three months. During their launch on February 11 the insulation of their Soyuz spacecraft was damaged, but Soviet officials have said there is no danger of them being stranded. (Reuters)

The latest agreement contains a number of additions to Meech Lake, without affecting its substance. One states that the "distinct society" clause does not take precedence over the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This was to mollify Mr Wells and some other premiers who are nervous about the implications of the clause.

A triumphant Mr Bourassa said: "It was a great battle, but the stakes were worth it." For the first time, English Canada now recognizes Quebec "for what we are".



Speed challenge: A pleasure boat passes a Sea Cat waiting at the dock in Somerset, Massachusetts, before attempting tomorrow to break the record for the fastest transatlantic crossing by a passenger ship. The first of these tri-hulled, jet-powered catamarans will cut the journey between Portsmouth and Cherbourg by five hours when it enters service this month. Hover speed says it will be cheaper than other ferries and hovercraft

Noriega papers give no firm evidence on drugs

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

A SIX-MONTH review of thousands of seized documents has produced almost no conclusive evidence linking General Manuel Noriega to large-scale drug trafficking, it was disclosed yesterday. The damning evidence that US investigators expected to find in the private papers of the former Panamanian dictator has simply failed to materialize, according to frustrated American officials.

"We've found no smoking gun," said one senior US official in Panama quoted in *The New York Times*. "Noriega was smart enough not to put anything on paper."

There have been reports here that US intelligence services, which had General Noriega on their payrolls during the 1970s and early 1980s, managed to get to the documents first and "sanitize" them, but this has been denied by the Justice Department.

According to *The New York Times*, investigators are now turning their attention to General Noriega's bank records, also seized after last December's US invasion of Panama. They are trying to correlate the movement of funds

through these accounts with the testimony of witnesses.

General Noriega, who is being held in Florida, was indicted in his absence on drug-trafficking charges by a US grand jury in 1988, but it now appears the case against him was less than watertight.

Washington nevertheless used his alleged drug trafficking as a central justification for the Panama invasion.

His trial will not begin until next year, but the prosecution's strategy is already apparent. "We've got plenty of witnesses who will implicate Noriega in drug dealing," said one Justice Department official. "But I have told the Administration that you don't go into a jury trial with a case you can't afford to lose — and this is a case the Government can't afford to lose."

The most damning documentary evidence against him is reportedly a letter found in his wife's safe-deposit box which was sent to him by a convicted American drug dealer called Steven Kalish. It purportedly discusses how to deal with Colombian cocaine traffickers. Kalish is expected to testify against the general

first, not only that the CIA knew full well that General Noriega was dealing in drugs, but actually condoned such dealing because he was using it as a way of collecting intelligence on Cuban and Colombian drug activities.

In the absence of conclusive evidence that he personally dealt in drugs, skillful defence lawyers should be able to weave a web of doubt in jurors' minds.



Iron ladies: Florida's first all-women confrontation squad, formed to tackle trouble in the state's four women's prisons, drilling at River Junction Correctional. One in 10 of all prisoners in Florida is female and a fifth women's prison is due to open.

ISTANBUL NOTEBOOK by Christopher Walker

The Turkish press has its fun and horror stories

So wide is the disrespect for Mr Yildirim Akbulut, the uncharismatic Turkish Prime Minister, a slow-witted former provincial lawyer, and so widespread the jokes about him that the daily *Sabah* recently offered a prize of £1,250 for the best.

Many of the unfaltering stories circulated about Mr Akbulut were once told in a different context, about the late Romanian dictator, Nicolae Ceausescu, another leader mocked for alleged lack of brain power. In one, the unfortunate Akbuluts are house guests of the Gorbachovs. Raisa confides that Mikhail gave her a Picasso for her birthday. "How many doors is that?" asks Mrs Akbulut. Later she tells her husband, former Speaker of the Parliament, about the quizical look she received. "I am not surprised," he replies. "Everyone knows it is a two-door saloon. Anyway, hurry up and get your bathing costume, the Gorbachovs have invited us to Swan Lake."

The fact that the jokes have begun to gain currency in the West has infuriated Mr Beyhan Cenkci, chairman of the Ankara Journalists Association, who issued a statement deplored the trend.

It failed to stop the latest tale offered to readers of the *Turkish Daily News*. The world's leaders are competing to find the best liar. There is loud applause for President Bush when he declares: "Capitalism is a total failure. From now on, call me US Communist Party General Secretary." But it is Mr Akbulut who easily scoops the award on uttering one sentence: "I sometimes think..."

Among the 15 publications forced to cease publication by swinging censorship laws introduced to counter the Kurdish uprising in the south-east is the left-wing daily *Towards 2000*, launched in 1987 and recently enjoying a circulation of 40,000. Daju Perincek, its editor,

went on the run and Mr Mehmet Selimus Guzel, one of its correspondents, said: "No one will risk printing us. The Government has let it be known that it will not tolerate any paper which voices an opinion different to its own. Most of the papers are not necessarily pro-Kurdish, but they want to publish articles on the Kurdish problem as part of a free political debate."

Journalists on the magazine have lost count of how many cases have already been brought against it. One editor, Fatma Yazici, was sentenced for an article which "insulted" the former President, Kenan Evren, by revealing that he purchased apartments for his daughter at unusually low prices.

Her previous offences had included a story outlining the career of Mr Turgut Ozal, the current President, in the private sector (three to five months later converted to a fine); an article on the philosophy behind the 1980 mill-

tary coup (16 months for being disrespectful to the President); and a summary of a Helsinki Watch report on the destruction of the ethnic identity of the 10 million Turkish Kurds (six years and three months).

In the seven years since the end of military rule, more than 2,000 journalists have been tried in more than 1,400 cases — not the best credentials for a country still hoping to secure membership of the European Community.

The London-based International Press Institute has already protested twice at the new censorship laws. One man who refused to be silenced, Mr Musum Yildirim, Kurdish mayor of the border town of Nusaybin, has since been suspended.

His suspension followed re-

marks by Western journalists about the recent upsurge in the Kurdish uprising. An official statement claimed he was being investigated

for the alleged offence of "making propaganda aimed at harming the integrity of the state by remarks and statements against the Turkish state and supportive of the illegal PKK organization".

The mayor, a former teacher

aged 43, faces jail if convicted.

"If they do that, it will be obvious to the world that it is only because I am a Kurd they are sending me to prison," he said.

Circumstances in Turkey make local Fleet Street battles pale by comparison. The dozen Turkish dailies have recently been engaged in one in which, among the prizes on offer, are 15 cars to a single reader in the daily *Gunaydin* and a two-seater airplane in *Tercumen*.

Hurriyet was recently accused of

refusing to accept a Church call for a ceasefire; their decision ended a truce in Freeport, marking a important change in their position. They had been demanding that President Doe leave Liberia before they would begin talks.

The rebels accuse President Doe's administration of corruption, economic mismanagement and human rights abuses.

More than 1,000 people, mostly civilians, have died since Mr Taylor began his insurgency.

No serious fighting had been reported since Friday, when the Government re-captured a rubber plantation 25 miles south-west of the capital. But the rebels maintained control of most of the 2.5 million.

The United States sent four

airships, carrying 2,100 marines, to Liberian waters in case an emergency evacuation was necessary. Britain also sent two frigates.

The Americans boarded the jet at Monrovia's small city airport. The international airport has been closed for more than a week.

"It is better if she leaves. If I run to run for my life I can't run with her," said Mrs Rosalind Towe, as she put her aircraft.

Although the rebels have

OVERSEAS NEWS 11

Welcome for visit by MPs and peer to Tehran

By ANDREW MC EWEN
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A VISIT to Tehran by four British parliamentarians has been agreed in principle by intermediaries acting for the two governments.

The Majlis, the Iranian Parliament, is likely to invite three MPs and a peer to travel to Tehran soon. They would try to strengthen links between the two countries, which have been slowly improving for several months. The hope is that this would lead to renewed talks between the two governments.

A Foreign Office spokesman confirmed that the Government had given its blessing. "We would welcome anything that would lead to better relations, especially if it brought about positive developments on the hostages," an official said.

Sir Anthony Parsons, a former Ambassador to Iran, said: "It would be a good thing if they went to Iran, but I would not expect anything (on the hostages) very quickly."

The prospects depend on restoring confidence between the two countries without incurring a backlash from hardliners, who have blocked previous attempts at a rapprochement. President Rafsanjani is unlikely to use his influence to help the British hostages in Beirut until he feels he has public support.

Rafsanjani is gradually improving his position, but he still has to be very careful," Sir Anthony said. "His problem is similar to that of Gorbachov. Unless he can deliver something on the economy, his position will not be secure."

The hints that an invitation was in the offing came after a series of contradictory statements by different Iranian leaders showing that the debate over whether to patch up remains active.

Sir Anthony said he felt events were following a zigzag course but gradually moving in the right direction. A Whitehall source supported this view.

The visit will be organized on the British side by Mr John Lytle, a senior Lambeth Palace official who has repeatedly acted as Dr Robert Runcie's envoy. He will be accompanied by Mr Cyril Townsend (C — Bexleyheath); Mr Robert Hicks (C — Cornwall South-East); Mr Thomas Clarke (L — Monklands West, Scotland); and Lord Torriff (SLD).

Mr Townsend said that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, had let it be known that he thought a further visit might be helpful.

You can take it we would not go (to Tehran) if the Foreign Office were opposed to it," he said.



Mr Lytle: An envoy for Lambeth Palace

Americans fly out in Liberia airlift

From ASSOCIATED PRESS IN MONROVIA

A US-chartered aircraft began flying Americans from Liberia yesterday morning, ending a 10-day stand-off between rebels and the Government.

The rebels, who had been demanding that President Doe leave Liberia before they would begin talks,

refused to accept a Church call for a ceasefire; their decision ended a truce in Freeport, marking a important change in their position. They had been demanding that President Doe leave Liberia before they would begin talks.

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Troubles deepen as Yeltsin announces his plan for economy

From RICHARD OWEN IN MOSCOW

THE struggle between President Gorbachov and Mr Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Federation President, flared again at the weekend when Mr Yeltsin told Russians he had a workable alternative to the Kremlin's economic reform programme and would "go to the people" directly if he was thwarted by Communist hard-liners. Mr Yeltsin warned of the risk of a "conflagration" in Russia.

In his first address to Russian television viewers since becoming Russian President two weeks ago, Mr Yeltsin asserted that his plan, unlike that put forward by the Gorbachov leadership, would involve no drop in living standards before the benefits of a market economy took effect.

Mr Yeltsin's intervention comes on the eve of tomorrow's vote in the Supreme Soviet on the government's economic plan put forward by

Advisers to the two leaders said they were in contact over a possible Gorbachov-Yeltsin meeting to find "common ground" on both economic reform and Russian independence. On Friday, at his joint press conference with Mrs Thatcher, Mr Gorbachov hinted at reconciliation, saying that at a time of "great changes" he would be upset if there were to be a split in the democratic forces of *perestroika*. There was a need for "national consensus", he said.

The Gorbachov leadership is trying to head off an open split between hardliners and democrats at the crucial Party Congress in three weeks' time. The party organization in the Russian republic is to "re-create itself" as the Russian

Communist Party in a bid to adopt a more reformist and forward-looking image. The first stage of the "recreation" began with a party conference in Leningrad at the weekend in which reformers demanded an end to privileges for the elite and a new definition of "humane and democratic socialism".

Hopes of a Yeltsin-Gorbachov rapprochement received a setback on Friday, however, when the Russian parliament declared that its laws would now take precedence over Soviet laws. The statement, part of a full declaration on sovereignty to be adopted this week, was passed by 544 votes to 271, indicating that many Communists had joined forces with Democratic Russia on this issue.

Then on Saturday came a row over Mr Yeltsin's television broadcast, which had been scheduled for Friday but was postponed until Saturday. Mr Mikhail Nenashov, the head of Soviet broadcasting, was summoned to the parliament and confronted by MPs from all factions furious over his decision.

Mr Nenashov said the live press conference given by Mr Gorbachov and Mrs Thatcher had forced him to make the postponement. Some MPs accused him of acting on instructions either from Mr Gorbachov or his wife, Raisa. Mr Yeltsin described the postponement as a "planned and organized political provocation".

In his broadcast, Mr Yeltsin said that his alternative economic plan would use "different economic levers" to ensure the burden of a transition to a market economy did not fall on ordinary people. He urged Russians to trust him, and asked for two years of "credit" in which to "stabilize the situation", assuring them that the benefits of reform would be felt by the third year.

Electors to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, meanwhile, again produced deadlock at the weekend between Democratic Russia and the Communists, indicating that, except on the basic issue of Russian sovereignty, the parliament remains evenly balanced.

Alternative plan: President Gorbachov's personal economic adviser has disavowed the government's plan for a gradual transition to a market-oriented economy, and instead proposed a series of presidential decrees to move the country more rapidly toward a free market.

Mrs Thatcher has supported the TASM while insisting that Britain should not be the only Nato country to deploy it. She has urged West Germany to accept some of the missiles, which would put the coalition in a difficult position in December's federal elections.

Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, last week disagreed with one of his own officials who had said that West Germany would never accept TASMs. This appeared to reflect a wish to avoid disunity in Nato rather than the view of his Free Democratic Party, the junior partner in the coalition.

• **WASHINGTON:** Mr Martin O'Neill, the shadow Defence Secretary, was returning to Britain last night after what he and US officials agreed was a relatively successful week here explaining Labour's new non-unilateral defence policy (writes Martin Fletcher from Washington).

His trip closely followed similar visits by Mr John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, and Dr Gordon Brown, the shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, all designed to allay long-standing US suspicion of the Labour Party in advance of the next general election and to pave the way for Mr Neil Kinnock's July 17 meeting with President Bush.

Leading article, page 15



Prime site: The British Embassy, right across the Moskva river from the Kremlin

Moscow embassy fears ended

By ANDREW MC EWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MRS Thatcher's visit to the Soviet Union has laid to rest fears that Moscow might repossess the British Embassy in Moscow and force the staff to move elsewhere. Whitehall sources said the Prime Minister had put the final touches to an agreement allowing Britain to retain the building, which occupies one of the finest sites in Moscow.

The Soviet authorities had asked for it to be returned, and for a new British Embassy to be built elsewhere. This may have been a tactic to overcome British objections to an expansion of the Soviet Em-

bassy in London. In most capitals the embassy and the ambassador's residence are separate, but in Moscow they are combined, imposing cramped working conditions.

Under the new agreement, Britain will be able to use a second site to ease the pressure, while the Soviet Embassy in Kensington Palace Gardens in London will also be allowed more flexibility.

In February the two countries settled their differences over the number of diplomats and businessmen which each country is allowed to keep in the other's capital, ending



Patriarch Aleksei II blessing the crowd outside Moscow's ornate Epiphany Cathedral after his enthronement as head of the Russian Orthodox Church yesterday. He is wearing the traditional patriarchal robes and mitre with which he was attired by members of the

Church's Holy Synod during the ceremony. Tass said President Gorbachov had sent him a telegram of congratulations. Patriarch Aleksei told the congregation at his enthronement that he would perform his duties "preserving loyalty to Church dogmas and canons".

He was elected last Thursday to succeed Patriarch Pimen, who died on May 3 after 20 years in office. Patriarch Aleksei, aged 61, was born in Tallinn, Estonia, and ordained a priest in 1950. He was elected to the Congress of People's Deputies last year. (Reuter)

Bulgarians flock to cast vote

From ROGER BOYES IN SOFIA

MILLIONS of Bulgarians, despite occasional cries of "foul", voted cheerfully yesterday in their first free election for more than 50 years, sometimes queuing for hours at the polling booths.

Political analysts believe that the communists, now renamed the Bulgarian Socialist Party, would come out ahead but would be obliged to form a coalition, either with the Agrarian Party or with sections of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces.

But the chief concern yesterday of both the communists and the opposition hierarchies seemed to be that the election should be conducted fairly. The Interior Ministry had

reports that the elections might be disrupted by a computer virus introduced into the counting system. Other dirty tricks could include electricity blackouts in the polling stations, swapping of ballot boxes and outright

intimidation, said an Interior Ministry spokesman, Mr Jordan Ormanov.

"I was worried that ballot envelopes might be stuffed with votes," said Miss Inger Harms, a Danish member of the Council of Europe observer team. "But I have been reassured that this cannot happen. My impression from Sofia is that this is a very disciplined election."

The Bulgarian voter has to pick up one ballot list nominating an individual politician and another nominating a party list. The voter must then put both lists in an envelope, and the envelope in a sealed box.

The ballot papers are colour-coded: the communists, the UDF blue and the Agrarian Party orange. But the ballot papers lie in huge unmonitored piles inside the voting booth.

"I do not think there is any danger of double or multiple

voting," said an election umpire, Mrs Maria Giorgieva, from the Bulgarian Institute for Free and Democratic Elections. "We will count the number of envelopes and tally them with the number of voters."

The opposition complained yesterday of pressure on voters from local communist councils. In the villages of Kazantsi and Orlcovets, pensioners were given, along with their pensions, sealed envelopes with red (communist) ballot slips. According to the opposition, they were told to use these envelopes; otherwise their pensions would be taken away and they would be barred from local shops.

Gypsies could be seen busily baking bread in roadside camps, because communist campaigners had told them that there would be no bread from Monday if the opposition won. "The Mr Big, the local mayor, is in charge of

housing lists assigning private allotments and much else, so he has a considerable influence on the voting pattern," said a Western diplomat.

Each polling station is run by a mixed party commission, which supervises the voting procedure. Non-party Bulgarian election observers are present throughout the day and at the final count. Some 13 countries have sent observer teams, with Britain and the United States best represented. The most experienced judges of East European elections are the parliamentary delegations from the Council of Europe, who appear to vote for whichever party they thought the most Christian and most democratic."

However, Mr Lubomir Hanus, secretary of the Christian Democrats, admitted that the church-based campaigning had not been sufficient and the party should have emphasized its nationalist appeal.

"In the four decades of communism many people have become agnostics, but every Slovak still has his national feelings."

The Slovak Nationalist Party is a mixed bunch of conservatives, former Communists and raging secessionists united by a loathing of the Czechs. Asked whether his movement will cause problems for President Havel and the new Government in Prague, Mr Marian Andel, the Nationalist Party leader, said: "That is their problem. Our job is to fight for a strong, free Slovakia."

He grudgingly accepts the nationwide consensus that Mr Havel is a good man who will tackle their grievances fairly. "But he won't be around for ever, and what then?" he asked. "There will always be another dumb Czech ready to grind us down. We are still slaves even now."

Leading article, page 15

Zhivkov home town divided

From TIM JUDAH IN PRAVEC, BULGARIA

"THE people of Pancevo loved Zhivkov," said a 73-year-old man as he emerged from one of this small town's polling stations. As if to prove it, he announced he had just voted for the Communist Party — or rather the Bulgarian Socialist Party as it is now called.

Others disagree with the old man, but there is no mistaking the mark of Bulgaria's former dictator on the town of his birth, 38 miles from Sofia. Mr Todor Zhivkov gave it a computer factory, a luxury hotel, an elite high school for the children of the *nomenklatura*, and an artificial lake.

He emphasized that he was expressing his own views, not Mr Gorbachov's. But he also said detailed drafts of laws and decrees had been prepared.

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Slovak
jubilant
after
election
success

Last-minute hitch plagues new Shamir coalition

From OUR CORRESPONDENT IN JERUSALEM

MR YITZHAK Shamir, Israel's caretaker Prime Minister, won overwhelming support from his Likud bloc governing committee yesterday to form a new right-wing government. But last-minute problems surfaced that could balk his efforts to present a majority government to Parliament today.

At a political rally in Tel Aviv, Mr Shamir told about 1,500 members of the Likud's Central Committee that "tomorrow we will open another page in the life of the state, in which Likud will play a central and essential role".

But in the show of hands supporting the government, one of the expected backers of the new coalition, Mr Avra-

China and Pakistan in tank deal

Islamabad — Pakistan and China signed an agreement at the weekend for Chinese aid and technology in building tanks and joint development of a main battle tank.

China's North Industrial Corporation agreed to help Pakistan progressively take over the manufacture of Chinese T69 and T85-II tanks and to collaborate in a new tank, a government statement said. (Reuters)

Ship aground

Boston — A cruise ship, Bermuda Star, with more than 1,000 people on board, ran aground in dense fog off Massachusetts, but there were no reports of injuries or apparent threat of sinking.

Mullah shot

Tehran — Hojatoleslam Ali Mazari, an influential Iranian cleric, was machine-gunned to death as he left a mosque in Zahedan, in the country's south-eastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan. (AFP)

Press clamp

Lagos — Two of Nigeria's leading newspapers failed to appear on the streets after armed police sealed off their premises and took away an editor. (Reuters)

Dhaka seizure

Dhaka — Police in Bangladesh discovered a child-smuggling ring and rescued 40 children who were being shipped to Pakistan en route to the Middle East, officials said.

Seoul rioting

Seoul — Thousands of South Korean radicals, hurling petrol bombs and stones, battled riot police on the second day of violent protests against the Government. (Reuters)

Boat rejected

Hong Kong — Seventeen Vietnamese boat people were not allowed to land here because the Taiwanese ship that picked them up had called at a Taiwanese port. (AP)

Zsa Zsa for jail

Los Angeles — Actress Zsa Zsa Gabor, found guilty of slapping a Beverly Hills policeman, has decided she will serve a three-day sentence for assault given her by a judge. (Reuters)

Judge seeks Barbie testimony

From PHILIP JACOBSON
IN PARIS

THE dark shadow of Klaus Barbie is threatening to fall across France once more as a senior Parisian judge digs deeper for evidence in what has become known as *l'affaire Touvier*. The former Gestapo chief, now serving a life sentence in St Joseph jail in Lyons, was questioned in his cell a few days ago about the activities of M Paul Touvier, head of the pro-Nazi French *milice* in the same city before the 1944 liberation.

It appears that Judge Jean-Paul Getty is particularly anxious to secure Barbie's testimony about the precise role played by M Touvier and his thugs in rounding up French Jews for deportation to the death camps and in hunting down Resistance members.

As he hinted more than once during his own trial in Lyons for war crimes, Barbie undoubtedly possesses inside knowledge of the true extent to which the *milice* and overly fascist French organizations co-operated during the Nazi occupation.

From the moment M Touvier was arrested last summer, the prospect of him being



M Touvier: Kept record of his pro-Nazi services

brought to trial — conceivably before the same court that convicted Barbie — sent tremors of alarm through sections of French society. Strong circumstantial evidence that his wartime escape was organized by leading figures in the Roman Catholic church, and that he subsequently enjoyed the protection of the ultra-traditional wing of the hierarchy, could focus an unwelcome spotlight on the role of some leading figures during and after the occupation.

It is known that M Touvier was arrested last summer, the prospect of him being



Cemetery outrage: A religious Jew inspecting damage to the graves on the Mount of Olives, Judaism's most sacred cemetery, where vandals smashed headstones of 70 graves (Our Correspondent in Jerusalem writes). Last month vandals spray-painted "Kill the Jews" on about 300 headstones and graves in Haifa. Two Jewish men were arrested in the incident. Arabs from nearby villages are suspected of the latest outrage

Arab alarm grows as Israel turns to hardline right

From OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT IN CAIRO

THE formation of a hardline, right-wing Israeli Government has caused bitterness throughout the Arab world, where there is growing talk of the region heading towards a new Middle East war.

The stepping up of Arab rhetoric has come at a time when the US is seriously considering breaking off its controversial 16-month-long dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization; a final decision is expected in Washington later this week.

Arab leaders are particularly concerned about the promotion of their *bête noire*, General Ariel Sharon, architect of the 1982 Lebanon war, to the crucial post of Housing Minister with responsibility for handling the massive influx of Soviet Jews into Israel.

Mr Salah Khalaf, better known by his *nom de guerre* Abu Iyad, the number two man in the PLO, described the new Likud-led coalition in Jerusalem as "a war Cabinet" which could be expected to increase repression against the Palestinians.

A similar emotive description was used by Mr Zuhdi al-Qoudra, the PLO representative in Cairo, who was widely quoted in the semi-official Egyptian press as saying that the new Government led by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, was planning to launch a new Israeli-Arab war in the autumn.

The leading members of this Government have started to plan such a war even before assuming office," Mr al-Qoudra alleged. "The Israeli authorities have made a top-secret decision banning travel for officers and pilots and have asked those who are now outside the country to return within 50 days," he said.

In his speech Mr Shamir insisted that the new coalition would be based on "unity and more closeness of opinion". He said that important goals would include the settlement of the thousands of Soviet Jews who have been arriving in Israel, and improvement in relations with the United States — which has been openly critical of Israel's handling of the Palestinian uprisings in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and concerned about the settlement of Jews in the occupied lands. On the uprising, Mr Shamir said the Army would move to end the violence.

Mr al-Qoudra also claimed that the new Likud coalition was planning to increase "massacres" against Arab citizens and would follow this with mass expulsion of Palestinians from the occu-

pied West Bank and Gaza Strip. This theme was taken up inside the occupied territories by Mr Hanan Ashrawi, a professor at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank. "This is a war Government, a conflict Government with no foresight to deal with peace," he said.

Even before the announcement of Mr Shamir's hardline Cabinet, predictions about the worsening security situation in the region had come from a number of analysts without any partisan axes to grind.

Mr Martin Indyk, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a respected American think-tank, said last week: "One gets the feeling that the region is heading back towards war. It is like riding a bicycle. If you are not moving forward with a peace process, you fall off the bicycle and there is a slide back to rejectionist attitudes."

His remarks were followed

over the weekend by a warning from Mr Ahmed Jibril,

leader of the maverick Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, that his members may soon turn to terrorist attacks to thwart the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel.

The mood of pessimism is widely shared by senior diplomats from both Western and Eastern European countries based in the main Arab capitals. "Unfortunately, all the ingredients are now there for the old, familiar Arab-Israeli conflict to be heated up again to a new boiling point," an ambassador in Cairo said.

The despair among moderate Arab leaders was increased by widely circulating diplomatic reports from Washington that President Bush is contemplating an end, or at least a 30-day suspension, of the US-PLO dialogue in Tunisia because of the PLO's failure to condemn the recent guerrilla attempt to attack Israeli seaside resorts.

Western observers in Cairo are concerned that any break in the dialogue would only encourage radicals who want a return to the armed struggle over PLO chairman Mr Yasser Arafat's policy of moderation.

Sanctions cloud gathers over Mandela's US trip

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

TEN days before Mr Nelson Mandela arrives to the hero's welcome in the United States, the Bush Administration has indicated that it is considering lifting sanctions against South Africa despite Mr Mandela's strong opposition.

In another development that could cast a cloud over Mr Mandela's visit, reports here yesterday claimed that the CIA played a pivotal role in his arrest in August, 1962.

Mr Mandela is currently on a 13-nation tour designed to stiffen world pressure on Pretoria. But Mr John Sununu, the White House Chief of Staff, said during a television interview on Saturday: "I think the President and Secretary of State will be reviewing this (US sanctions against South Africa), and... I think in terms of the law, the legal ability to remove sanctions is there."

According to the reports, the CIA had an agent within the ANC and was worried that a successful nationalist movement could topple a friendly South African government and jeopardize the stability of other African states.

The reports also quote Mr Gerald Lodi, a retired South African intelligence official, as confirming that there was a CIA agent within the ANC at that time who provided information on Mr Mandela's movements. The CIA refused to comment on the reports.

Mr Mandela arrives in the US on June 20. He will meet

President Bush at the White House, address a joint session of Congress, attend a ticker-tape parade in his honour in New York, and lay a wreath at the grave of Martin Luther King in Atlanta. He will also visit Boston, Miami, Detroit, Los Angeles and Oakland, in California, where he will address a huge rally at the Hollywood Coliseum.

A group of American Jewish leaders were due to meet Mr Mandela in Geneva yesterday to ask for clarification of his views of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization. Earlier this year Mr Mandela gave Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, a bearing when they met in Lusaka, and Mr Mandela has compared the Palestinian struggle to the anti-apartheid battle.

• JOHANNESBURG: Miriam Makeba, the first black South African singer to gain international fame and dubbed "Mama Africa" by her fans, returned home to South Africa yesterday after 31 years in exile to visit her mother's grave. (Reuters)

Blazing tanker threat off Texas

From REUTER
IN GALVESTON, TEXAS

FIREMEN were battling yesterday to contain a blaze raging out of control on an oil tanker off Galveston. The fire threatened to rupture the vessel's hull and spill 38 million gallons of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico. "It is still very much out of control. It is a very hot fire," Mr Todd Nelson, a Coast Guard spokesman, said.

If the fire-fighters lose the battle and the 835ft Mega Borg splits and discharges its cargo, it will be by far America's worst oil spill, exceeding by a factor of more than three the 11 million-gallon spill from the Exxon Valdez which devastated parts of the coast of Alaska in 1989.

In New York harbour yesterday efforts continued to clean up the 260,000 gallons of tar-like industrial oil which spilled out on Thursday when the British-registered tanker BT Nautius ran aground. Some reports said the operation could take as long as a year.

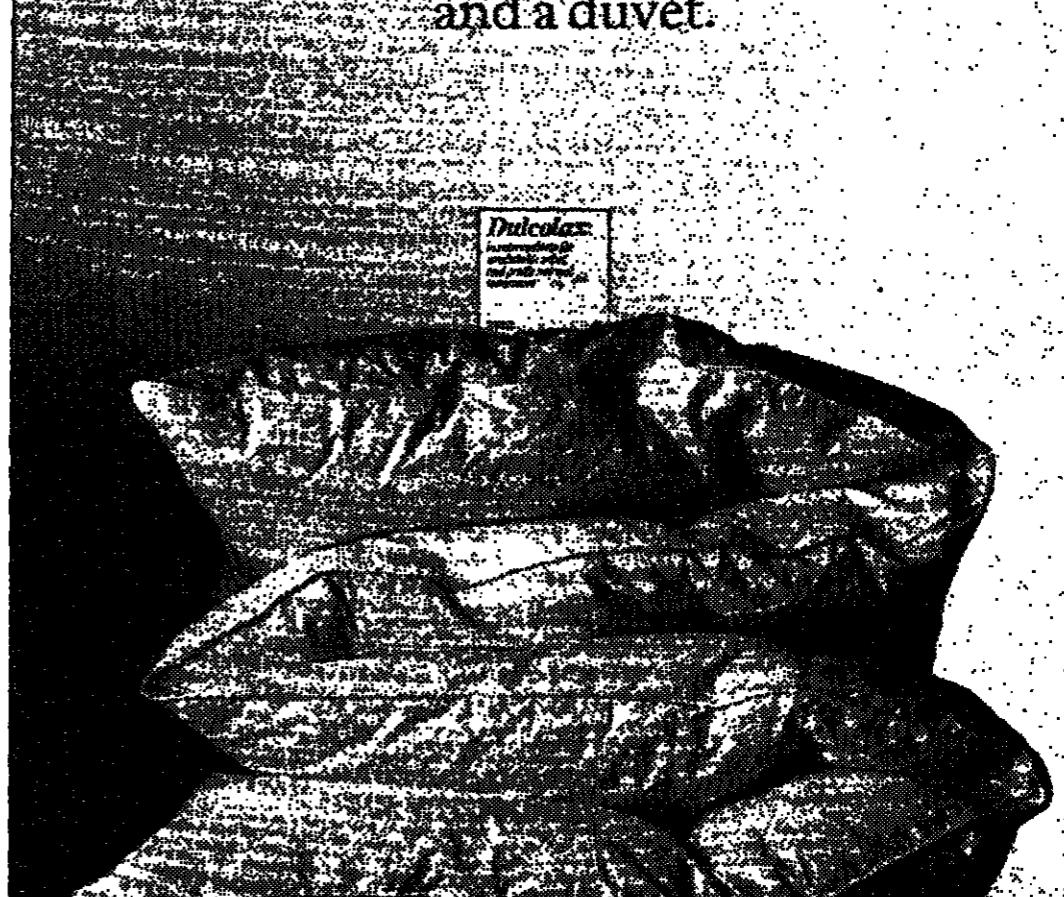
The Norwegian-owned Mega Borg has been on fire since Saturday when it was rocked by an explosion. Coast Guard videotapes showed flames engulfing the tanker's superstructure. While nearby ships sprayed it down, a cloud of thick black smoke billowed thousands of feet into the air. As seen on the videos, the tanker appeared to be slightly down at the stern.

Six fire-fighting boats used both foam and water to try to bring the flames under control. Several fire-fighters have gone on board the blazing vessel. "There are people on board the ship right now. They are trying to shut the cargo valves," Mr Nelson said. So far at least 17,000 gallons of oil have leaked from the ship, creating an oil slick four miles long and up to a mile wide, he added.

The Mega Borg exploded on Saturday during a lighting operation, in which oil is transferred from one ship to another, with the Italian tanker Framura. Two men were killed and two others were reported to be still missing. Thirty-six crew, 17 of whom were injured, abandoned the vessel and were rescued by a nearby supply vessel.

Mr Nelson said survivors had been interviewed, but the Coast Guard still did not have any idea what had caused the blast, which was apparently in the tanker's pump room, he said.

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Mad cows and competition

Ronald Butt

Reflection on the curious impact on the European Community of mad cow disease (BSE) has cast a shaft of new light on the argument over the sovereignty of the member nations. The differences of opinion over the risks to human health arising from BSE also illuminate the relationship between the pronouncements of the "experts" and the rights of public opinion.

The disease was caused by using protein from dead sheep in cattle feed, a process which the experts involved presumably thought carried no risk. If farmers had realized what was happening, they would presumably still have used it on the assumption that the experts knew what they were doing. On the other hand, if the practice had been generally known, some farmers and some of the public might well have had their doubts – and as it turns out, they would have been right.

Since the disease was discovered among cattle, successive precautions have been taken. Most notably, those parts of the offal which might harbour the disease have to be removed from the carcasses of cattle which were not known to have had BSE but which had conceivably carried it. The public has been repeatedly assured by the Government, on expert advice, that given such precautions there is no risk to human health. Yet some nutritionists have continued to assert the contrary, and many people have remained sufficiently concerned for beef sales to fall.

Not everyone is happy with the "expert" view that when no evidence exists to prove risk, it can be safely assumed that no risk exists. That, of course, was the logic which operated in the Sixties and later when antibiotics were splashed around regardless, especially among children (a practice which parents found hard to resist, though some did their best). Today the risks of such overprescription are medical orthodoxy. Similarly, there was a time when the family planning lobby (with expert reassurances of safety) wanted the contraceptive pill to be taken off prescription and made freely available in pharmacies. Nobody would suggest that today. The possible adverse consequences of the pill are too well understood.

We should therefore always allow for the possibility that today's expert opinion may be corrected by that of tomorrow. Inexpert reasoning, or common sense, is not always silly, and the lack of evidence of a risk does not necessarily rule risk out.

There should always be maximum public information and discussion, with a willingness to apply a good pinch of salt to current orthodoxy. Public opinion must also be allowed to judge in the light of all the other circumstantial, a priori or common-sense evidence available – for which we must depend (for all their inexpert faults) on the newspapers and television.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

If, at any time during my stint in Parliament, misfortune should have taken Mrs Thatcher from us, I would have voted for Sir Geoffrey Howe. I still would. Apart from the requisite qualities of skill and intellect, he seems to me to be an honourable man.

How do I know? A simple test, and a serious one. I imagine government to be in the grip of a rising Fourth Reich. It is making some race or group the scapegoat for all its. I picture the slow drift from claims in which there may be some scintilla of truth to claims progressively more grotesque; the slide from illiberal measures towards inhumane, then (finally) monstrous measures.

I imagine the apologetic speeches my friends deliver from the dispatch box, making what case they can for policy. Mentally, I help with the drafting, and hear our conversation at dinner as they explain that, however awkward, it seems best for the moment to stay, as a moderating influence; and, besides, the PM does surely have an argument...

It's surprising how easy this exercise proves, with either party. And depressing how few pass my final tests. I ask myself – of each – if there is any conceivable point, in the slide towards barbarism, at which he or she says "So far and no further", and simply quits.

I wish I felt sure I would. I know some civilized men who would stay. But Howe wouldn't. Things would have to get bad, mind you, but that's not the point in the end, he would quit. So he gets my vote.

Such thoughts were far away last Thursday when, crossing the corridor behind the Speaker's chair to get to the Times room, I happened upon Sir Geoffrey talking to Steven Norris MP, and others. Norris is on anyone's "honourable" list, too, and I should have liked to join their conversation.

But something terrible was distracting me. "Matthew," said Sir Geoffrey, "did you see the row this afternoon between Ted Heath and Bernard Braine? Splendid

If, moreover, the British public is entitled to form its opinion, so is the German, the French and the Italian. The governments of all three banned British beef in defiance of the European Commission's contrary ruling, which was also export-based. Despite the British attachment to national sovereignty, the Government, in the person of John Gummer, the Agriculture Minister, promptly appealed for the Commission's judgment to be upheld, and he threatened to take the matter to the European Court.

A compromise has now been reached in the Council of Ministers and the ban has been lifted in exchange for some new precautions. Principally, beef exported on the bone must now be certified as coming from farms where there has been no case of BSE for two years.

Those who would have banned

British beef had no monopoly of virtue. The French in particular were moved by protectionist considerations, even though it is possible to see the point of their argument that their market should not bear the consequences of lower beef import prices caused by the British consumers' lack of confidence.

The Germans were

more straightforwardly influenced by health considerations. In the end, it is as important for this kind of problem to be settled in negotiations between the political representatives of national opinion as it is for greater issues of foreign policy. Such matters affecting ordinary people in their daily life are not to be determined by either the Brussels bureaucracy or by some supranational power's authority which is not accountable to national parliaments or responsive to national pressures.

Nor is the EC drive against protectionism a reason for denying the consumer more information about the origin of goods, which is part of the information on which he or she can make a market choice. There are certainly some countries in the Community from which I would be less inclined to buy manufactured goods than I would from others.

Yet there is no ruling which requires foods either to be or to be so labelled, except where the description might be misleading – for instance, Cheddar cheese that was made in France.

The one general requirement on labelling is that which prevents the stamping of eggs with their country of origin, though this may be stated on egg boxes. In fact, the salmonella scare provided good reason for such labeling. Both this and the anxiety about beef have raised the question whether labels of origin of Community (and other) foodstuffs should be obligatory. Competition in a free market requires information, not superficial uniformity. With both eggs and beef, we have seen pointers to the way in which the market could begin to function more searchingly and on more information. That is something government should welcome, not resist.

Rodney Lord believes Labour policy-makers are on the right lines but must try still harder

Tax reform with too many losers

Yesterday's claim by Margaret Beckett, Labour's Treasury spokesman, that the average family of four is £300 a year worse off because of government tax changes may distract attention for the moment from the Tory onslaught on Labour's economic policy. But only for the moment. Ministers will soon be back with the charge that Labour's public spending and taxation plans cannot be reconciled. This seems a little off beam. While there are many uncrossed spending commitments in Labour's new policy document, there are also some substantial revenue-raising ones. The more interesting question is how great a reform of the tax system Labour is planning, and who will feel the effects.

Labour proposes three principal revenue-raising measures: an increase in the top rate of income tax from 40 per cent to 50 per cent, abolition of the married couple's allowance and extension of national insurance contributions all the way up the income scale (and preferably on unearned income as well as earned, perks as well as money incomes), the effective marginal tax rate would rise smoothly from 34 per cent to 49 per cent without this distorting dip in the middle. Abolition could be about £5 billion, some of which might usefully be spent on increasing child benefit.

National insurance contributions are also less than perfect. Because state pensions and un-

distribution of incomes at higher levels is now rather out of date, but introduction of a 50 per cent rate on taxable incomes of, say, £30,000 might raise £1 billion – less if taxpayers avoidance measures. To raise £2 billion, as Neil Kinnock seems to have suggested, would require the threshold to be considerably lower.

The other two proposals, both of which would meet with almost unanimous approval from economists and tax experts, are much more promising. The justification for the married couple's allowance is dubious. If independent taxation means what it says, the logical formula is one person, one allowance. Marriage is expensive only when it leads to children, and the obligation of society to the next generation is recognized in child benefit. The yield in today's money from abolishing the married couple's allowance would be about £5 billion, some of which might usefully be spent on increasing child benefit.

Altogether Labour's tax proposals might raise £10 billion, counting in the proposed limit on total tax breaks for the rich – an

employment benefit are paid out of today's taxes rather than a fund of savings contributed in previous years, the difference between national insurance contributions (NICs) and income tax is more presentational than real. But employee contributions are levied only over a restricted band of income, leading to some odd quirks in the system.

While employees pay 9 per cent NICs and 25 per cent income tax on earnings up to £18,200 – a total rate of 34 per cent – above that level the marginal rate falls to the basic 25 per cent before rising again to 40 per cent when taxable income reaches the higher rate threshold. If NICs were payable all the way up the income scale (and preferably on unearned income as well as earned, perks as well as money incomes), the effective marginal tax rate would rise smoothly from 34 per cent to 49 per cent without this distorting dip in the middle. Abolition could yield about £4 billion.

Altogether Labour's tax proposals might raise £10 billion, counting in the proposed limit on total tax breaks for the rich – an

American rule which, like the abolition of the married couple's allowance and extension of NICs, is widely supported by the experts. That would finance a lot of public spending, for example, a near 50 per cent increase on health. Alternatively it would finance a substantial lower rate band of income tax – say 15 per cent on the first £5,000 of taxable income.

Doubts start to creep in only when one considers the scale of redistribution these changes imply. There are about 12 million married couples in Britain – 24 million voters. Every one of them, apart from the small number not paying tax, would stand to lose £3.27 a week (or £13.23 for higher-rate taxpayers).

The loss could be offset partly by introducing the lower rate band, but as this would help everyone, both single and married, it would certainly not compensate fully. Raising child benefit would also help couples with children, but that would still leave about 11 million losers among couples without children or whose children were grown up. Phasing in the change by keeping personal allow-

ances for married couples unchanged in cash terms, as Labour proposes, would be small recompense. The married couple's allowance was created precisely to avoid the large numbers of losers at risk under the Labour plan.

Extending national insurance contributions is also losers-intensive. Labour's tax advisers are not the first people to notice that the structure of NICs leaves a lot to be desired, but to remove the upper earnings limit raises the marginal tax rate by 9 per cent for everyone earning more than £18,200. Raising taxes for everyone making more than one and a half times average earnings does not sound like squeezing only the rich.

More and more people seem to agree with Labour that some additional public spending, at least on capital investment, would be no bad thing. But there is no sign that they are ready for massive redistribution within the tax system, however good an economic pedigree such changes may have. Labour will need to be careful if it is not to trip on tax reform in the next general election campaign as it did in the last.

All in pieces, so why do we take him seriously?

Given Soviet realities, Bernard Levin thinks a united Germany should join Nato regardless of Gorbachov



seriously, and not only by those who insist that if Germany is united she will at once launch the third world war.

Just look at what is being demanded, and in what condition the demander is. Gorbachov presides (for the time being) over an empire which is morally, spiritually and materially bankrupt. He behaves as though he has a right to dictate to Germany, a free and independent state, which international organizations she may join; more amazing, he seems to think he may station troops in that newly-independent country.

The embarrassment would be all the greater if the prison authorities insisted that although the sentence had been served in full, the ex-prisoner must go on wearing, for many more years, a ball and chain. But that is precisely what Gorbachov is demanding. He behaves as though he has a right to dictate to Germany, a free and independent state, which international organizations she

might have some lemons for sale, and where there are desperate shortages of everything needed from hope to soap, from ease to cheese, and from soul to coal, is not just strutting and fretting his hour upon stage, but demanding to help write the script, choose the cast and acknowledge the applause. And, as I say, the play is real danger of faulze there now – or house them, or persuade them to work for their wages (their very reasonable reply to such a request is that there is nothing to buy with the wages), or to be sober at least some of the time (the similarly reasonable reply is that the only way to bear life in the Soviet Union is to be drunk all the time), and they have no expectation that things will ever get any better, in which belief they are almost certainly right.

The head of this shambles, in which a serious riot can start by a whispered confidence to the effect

that there is a greengrocer who might have some lemons for sale, and where there are desperate shortages of everything needed from hope to soap, from ease to cheese, and from soul to coal, is not just strutting and fretting his hour upon stage, but demanding to help write the script, choose the cast and acknowledge the applause. And, as I say, the play is real danger of faulze there now – or house them, or persuade them to work for their wages (their very reasonable reply to such a request is that there is nothing to buy with the wages), or to be sober at least some of the time (the similarly reasonable reply is that the only way to bear life in the Soviet Union is to be drunk all the time), and they have no expectation that things will ever get any better, in which belief they are almost certainly right.

Earlier on, the excuse was that if the West did not support Gorbachov, Stalin would rise from the grave, enslave the whole of Europe and rain thousands of nuclear missiles on us all. Even before the captive nations of the East became free, that argument was nonsense. Gorbachov could threaten nothing, however feeble, that he would be in a position to do if he did not get his own way, and the more serious the threat the more obviously he was incapable of following it through. As for the internal

challenge, I recently suggested that there could be nobody in the Soviet Union mad enough to accept the impossible and eternally hopeless task of turning it into a civilized and prosperous nation, however long he was given to succeed. My suggestion was made lightly; but apart from Yeltsin, who obviously is mad, not even the most reactionary apparatchik, the most enraged underground entrepreneur, would refuse to be led to his immediate hanging.

Gorbachov does have some real problems, for which, because they cannot in reality be solved, he must provide illusory solutions. The most obvious of the problems is the explosive force of nationalism unbound; he felt obliged to confront the Baltic states because of some of his internal critics, if he had simply shrugged and let the three heroic republics go, would have demanded to see the hair on

his chest. But that made certain that far more serious challenges in the name of independence would follow hard upon, and indeed they have; Russia v. the Soviet Union would be a most interesting war. In addition, he must brace himself to let the economy loose, in the certain knowledge that real prices will have to be paid, and that none of his subjects will understand the necessity. And now Yeltsin (who has better watch his back; he must have heard of Kirov, surely.)

Why, then, are Bush and Mitterrand and Thatcher and Kohl behaving as though this shabby bankrupt is a figure of enormous means, for whom all doors must fly open, all heads bow in salute? Only a couple of weeks ago, he "rejected" the admission of the enlarged Germany into Nato as it is; he "insisted" that the West would not be permitted to design the necessary structure of European security, and offered a "compromise" in the form of an agreement to make Germany a member of the Warsaw Pact as well as Nato. For all I know, he may be about to insist that he should part half his navy in the Channel, or indeed just upstream from Lambeth Bridge.

Of course, this braggart stuff may be nothing but a form of begging: give me enough food for me to feed my people, and enough words for me to claim that I got it only after a tremendous struggle on their behalf, and I can say that I gave up a few trivial items of security in exchange, but only, of course, with the most solid and visible assurances.

Some people are afraid of ghosts; I certainly would not jeer at those who refuse to sleep in a certain room because they are convinced that it is haunted. Nor would I reject out of hand the possibility that footprints attributed to someone long dead are indeed the traces of a revenant. But if, in broad daylight, I see a most corporeal figure draped himself clumsily in a perfectly ordinary bedsheet, from which his bob-nailed boots project below, and his red and all too obviously human hands from both sides, I shall not shiver with fear even when he announces, in a sepulchral voice, that he is the ghost of Queen Victoria. Or, for that matter, of Lenin.

capped people in Kent, and are sent for slaughter to a local butcher – checked out for the most humane standards, of course. In an interview in next month's *Country Living*, his pig breeder, Graham Jackson, reveals that the trust which owns Homelands is about to open a second home at the nearby Highlands Farm, offering pigs on a much grander scale; if for a bishop, one might say. Dr Runcie is clearly looking forward to the prospect: "There are handicaps about being an archbishop. At Homelands, they accept me as just another handicapped person," he says.

Grace note

Edward Heath, criticized for staging an "elitist" £1,000-a-head concert for Salisbury Cathedral, has delighted his supporters, and dismayed his critics, by enticing one of the world's leading opera singers to the event. The American soprano Grace Bumbry will sing arias from a number of operas at the concert, which will raise some £250,000 for the cathedral spire appeal, and will be a draw at the preceding champagne reception and subsequent dinner in a marquee on Heath's lawn. Secret negotiations have been going on for months, and her appearance was confirmed only in the last few days. The fee has not been disclosed. Heath will be hoping that Bumbry's appearance is more successful than when she starred in *Aida*, in front of 14,000 people, at Earl's Court almost exactly two years ago. She suffered from hay fever, and a singer in the audience took over.

Curtain down at the Wells?

With London's Dominion Theatre already under threat of demolition, an even more famous London theatre is in jeopardy. Fears are growing that plans to build a theatre adjacent to Sadler's Wells will involve demolition of the original building, which is the spiritual home of modern British opera and ballet. It was midwife to the Royal Ballet, the Birmingham Ballet (to become "Royal" later this year) and English National Opera; it was there that Margot Fonteyn made her name and Peter Pears his debut, in Benjamin Britten's *Peter Grimes*. Now the site is earmarked, along with Thames Water's New River Head land next door, for a commercial development that will include housing, offices and a new ballet theatre.

The options include demolition of the present theatre and a scheme involving "some degree of existing buildings". One member of the Sadler's Wells board says: "The shape of the present building and the size of the stage have severely limited what we can put on. We have looked for years at trying to enlarge the existing stage, but it is shoe-horning. Changes have to come." He concedes that many would be sad to see the old theatre go, but adds: "It now has a worn and patched feel. It is more important to build a larger, more appropriate theatre for the community." The plans will go out for local consultation and the developers hope the support of Islington

council can be ensured by the incorporation of a museum of local history.

But the prospect has horrified London's theatrical world, and conservationists will oppose demolition of the waterboard site. Piped water was first brought to London via New River Head, which has an ancient well-cover, the base of a windmill and a listed pumping station. Lord St John of Fawsley, chairman of the Royal Fine Arts Commission, said yesterday: "We shall call the plans in and judge any effect they may have on listed buildings."

Chamber of horror

Supporters of the War Crimes Bill, which the House of Lords threw out last week, are raising the stakes today with a House of Commons exhibition on Buchenwald concentration camp, where 43,000 people died. At least one minister, John Patten, is expected to attend the opening of the exhibition, which will be used as a platform to persuade Mrs Thatcher to persist with the bill. The exhibition, the idea of Labour MP Llin Golding – whose father, Ness Edwards, was a member of the parliamentary delegation which went to Buchenwald immediately after its liberation in 1945 – will contain much new and harrowing material provided by the East German government.

Golding hopes that Mrs Thatcher will ignore objections raised in the Cabinet and take on the Lords. She says: "I will never give up. It makes a mockery of justice if we allow this measure to be thrown out. If necessary I will bring forward, or support, a private member's bill." At the

opening Golding intends to read the oath taken by the Buchenwald survivors: "We swear to all humanity that our fight will not be until the people of the world have called each and every one of these criminals to justice." If that does not make their lordships squirm, she says, nothing will.

• Who says we have a heartless, uncaring prison system? When the authorities at Gloucester jail heard that a folk festival was to be held just outside its walls at the weekend, they asked the organizers for 280 programmes and distributed them to the prisoners, who thus knew what band or singer was responsible for each number waltzing through the bars. Particular interest will have been shown by the members of Inside Out, the prison's own group.

Priestly pioneer

Is this a first? A newly ordained British woman minister has celebrated the Eucharist in a sister church of the Church of England. While the Synod still agonizes over a decision on the ordination of women priests, 28-year-old Shirley Blair, attached to St Catharine's church in central



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE June 9: Today The Princess Royal visited Hampshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Hampshire (Lieutenant Colonel Sir James Scott, Bt.)

Her Royal Highness, President, Royal Yachting Association, attended the Senior European Finn Championships, Hayling Island Sailing Club, Portsmouth.

Afterwards The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, attended a luncheon given by the Save the Children Fund Farnham Branch at Southampton Institute of Higher Education, Weymouth.

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness visited the Children Fund shops at Portsmouth and Portchester.

The Princess Royal then visited Gosport Sailing Club to watch the closing stages of the Stokes Bay Marathon Windsurfing race sponsored in aid of the Save the Children Fund.

Finally her Royal Highness visited Gosport Community

Association and reopened Bury House. The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

June 10: Today is the sixtieth Anniversary of the Birth-day of The Duke of Edinburgh.

YORK HOUSE

June 9: The Duchess of Kent, as Sponsor, today attended the Commissioning Ceremony of HMS UPHOLDER at Vickers Shipbuilding & Engineering Limited, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE June 9: Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy this afternoon arrived at Royal Air Force Brize Norton from Portugal.

Her Royal Highness and Sir Angus Ogilvy subsequently visited Milford Haven on the occasion of the Bicentennial Celebrations and were received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Dyfed, Mr David Mansell Lewis.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a gala dinner at Hampton Court at 7.40, in aid of Foot Guards charities. The Duke of Kent, as Colonel of the Scots Guards, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, will also attend.

Princess Margaret will visit Berwick-upon-Tweed on June 10.

The Duke of Gloucester will visit North Craven Heritage Trust Centre, 6-8 Chapel Street, Settle, North Yorkshire, at 11.00 to mark the trust's twenty-first anniversary; will visit Croft Barn and Undercliffe, Duke Street, at 11.10; Hardens House, Ainstwick, at 12.10; Ribblehead at 2.10; and St Oswald's Church, Horton-in-Ribblesdale, at 2.45.

Birthdays today

Mr Tony Allcock, bowler, 35; Mr John Aspinall, founder, Howells Zoo Park, 64; Mr James Boswell, painter and engraver, 73; Mr Michael Cacoyannis, film director, 66; Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, 59; Mr Jacques Cousteau, marine explorer, 80; Mr John Dyson, cricketer, 36; Mr Justice Evans, 56; Sir Marcus Fox, MP, 63; Mr Athol Fugard, actor and playwright, 58; Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Gerken, 58; Dame Beryl Grey, prima ballerina, 63; Mr J. Dundas Hamilton, chairman, Wates City of London Properties, 71; Brigadier Sheila Heaney, former director,

Diploma of Member in General Surgery.

V.P.Hist: D.J.E.Thomas; H.K.Grant; A.J.McKee; A.M.Blackford; G.E.Fiske; N.D.Watkinson; S.C.Taylor.

The following are entitled to the Diploma of Member in Clinical Community Dentistry:

P.J.Usher; S.A.Hancock; C.W.Vaughan-Jones.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Amanda Nevill to be secretary of The Royal Photographic Society in succession to Mr Kenneth Watt who retires at the end of July.

Mr Andrew Colquhoun to be secretary and chief executive of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales in succession to Mr John Warne who retires in July.

Royal College of Surgeons

Faculty of Dental Surgery

The following are entitled to the

Nature notes



THE trees and bushes are full of young birds and their anxious parents. Adult chaffinches have buffish breasts, while the fledglings are pale yellow beneath; they all feed together, fluttering and darting among the leaves. Young blue tits are much yellower around the head than their parents: they are often 10 or 12 to a family, and keep up a high-pitched whispering deep in the foliage. Blackcaps with young nearby give vent to an agonised chattering, which may slip into a noisy through the bushes and willow-herb, churring almost as loudly as a mistle thrush. Most mute swans now have five or six downy cygnets, who swim behind them nodding their small grey heads.

New flowers that are open include ground elder, which is like a cow parsley with elder leaves; and wild angelica, a

large, fleshy member of the same family, often with pink flowerheads. On chalk grassland there are fragrant orchids, which have a long pink spike of flowers, and primroses which are more tent-shaped, with a disagreeable smell. On lime trees, flower buds are growing out of the wings that will eventually carry the seeds away: the little cluster of knobs on stalks looks like the model of a molecule.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the

Mr R.A.P. Wild and Miss K.M. Holborow

The marriage took place on Saturday at Loddon Parish Church, Truro, Cornwall, of Mr Robert Anstey Preston Wild, son of Mr and Mrs Anstey Wild.

The marriage took place on Saturday at The White Cottage, Beauford, Dorsetshire, to Miss Katherine Mary Holborow, daughter of Mr Geoffrey and Lady Mary Holborow, of Loddon House, Loddon.

The bride, who was given in

by Rev. J.F. Whittle officiated.

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Stacking the odds in your child's favour

Leo and Henry are 10-year-old friends living in Putney, south-west London. Leo goes to a highly rated primary school where most of the children are fed into the local independent day schools at the age of 11. Henry goes to a local prep school, and has designs on going to a boarding school. Both are receiving private tuition.

They are not alone. Almost all children who sit the independent school entrance examinations in London are privately tutored. Leo's mother, hat maker Vivienne Knowland, says: "There is not a parent I know who is not having their child tutored. For most of these schools there are as many as 400 competing for around 40 places. The children need all the help they can get."

In Henry's case his £3,000-a-year prep school told his parents that he needed extra help on his maths and so he was put in for extra tuition.

One of the tutors, Jennifer Preston, left her full-time teaching job 15 years ago. She says: "I had four children and it just got too much. I thought I would do a bit of private tuition to keep my hand in. I have never advertised but I am fully booked until 1992 and have bookings until 1994."

Private tutoring can be very well paid. Mrs Preston says: "I know of some who are charging as much as £17 an hour, which means that for around three hours a day someone can earn more than they would be paid upon."

The college interviews almost 400 boys every year for 100 places, Mr Holloway says. "Potential is important, but they must be able to express themselves on paper, and our maths is something that many have not come across in their normal schooling. I am not in favour of cramming, but many children are not being pushed by mixed ability classes."

"Certainly the demand gets stronger every year and we can be more choosy, but that does not mean we are making our exam more difficult. We are looking for boys who will enjoy the academic environment of King's and will be able to contribute."

Of the 95 boys who make it from the junior to senior school, on average only 10 drop out before the sixth form, mostly because parents decide to move them.

Mr Field has some sympathy for parents. He says: "Since the demise of the Inner London Education Authority I think there has been an increase in the numbers of parents who are getting their children tutored for the private system. They see us as a rock of stability in an educational world which is changing to what they know not what."

HUGH THOMPSON

EDUCATIONAL

POSTS



**PRINCE WILLEM-ALEXANDER COLLEGE
THE NETHERLANDS**

'THE WORLD IN A COLLEGE'

This international boarding Sixth Form College (founded in 1988) seeks for late August or January 1991 a VICE PRINCIPLE to succeed Mr. David Morley who has been appointed Head of the British School in Rio.

Candidates of wide and appropriate experience (academic subject is immaterial, though in the first instance preference may be given to those who teach Geography and/or Mathematics and Computer Studies) are invited to apply by sending a full CV and names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees to Cameron Cochrane, The Principle, Prince Willem-Alexander College, Gravenallee 11, 7591 PE Denekamp, The Netherlands (Telephone +31 5413 3485 Telefax +31 5413 4365) from whom further particulars may be obtained.

A COMMUNITY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK AND AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME



**PRINCE WILLEM-ALEXANDER COLLEGE
THE NETHERLANDS**

'THE WORLD IN A COLLEGE'

Require for late August (or January 1991) an enthusiastic and well qualified GEOGRAPHER to teach to International Baccalaureate Higher Level standard. Willingness to be fully involved in the community life of this international boarding Sixth Form College is essential. Accommodation available.

This vacancy would suit a young geographer of three or four years experience. Alternatively, for someone more senior and with wider experience the post of VICE PRINCIPAL could be available - please see other advertisement.

Please apply now with full CV and names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees to Cameron Cochrane, The Principle, Prince Willem-Alexander College, Gravenallee 11, 7591 PE Denekamp, The Netherlands (Telephone +31 5413 3485 Telefax +31 5413 4365) from whom further particulars may be obtained.

A COMMUNITY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK AND AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME

Schools must market themselves or risk going out of business. David Tytler reports

Choosing an education for your child could become not only similar to buying a can of baked beans, but to choosing which supermarket label you prefer, without tasting the contents.

Independent schools have always sold their wares quite unashamedly to the parents, a declining number of whom are ex-customers, but they have gone as a group arguing that their type of schooling would be best for the child, leaving it to the parents to decide from which particular store they should buy it.

The Government's education reforms are, however, being perceived as setting school against school: the larger the number of pupils, the greater the amount of money available. The less cash there is, the less can be put back into the school, the less attractive it becomes, bringing less finance so that finally it is no longer viable. The school has to close, letting down the few and probably disadvantaged children still sitting at its desks.

It becomes imperative, therefore, to maintain the number of pupils at a time of falling rolls. Relying on word of mouth is no longer enough; the school has to be sold, just like any other service.

The 30,000-strong National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) is concerned that there are dangers in this trend and is preparing a code of conduct to ensure that market forces do not get out of hand.

The NAHT fears that schools may embark on campaigns which may damage neighbouring schools and result in their closure, particularly if academic results are involved. The Government's education reforms insist that from 1992 all schools publish the results of assessment tests. Secondary schools are already required to publish the results their pupils achieve in public examinations, such as the GCSE and A-levels.

Head teachers argue that there is more to a school than its examination results which, at the very least, often depend on the area the school is serving or how its pupils are selected. They say that even the most academically schools would claim to offer more than examination results; a school is about experience, about gaining knowledge of the world, and about building knowledge on which to make judgements.

David Hart, general secretary of the NAHT, says: "We are against copy which is a blatant attack on the examination results of neighbouring schools. Schools are entitled to advertise themselves, but they must do it fairly."

For most parents, the first obvious sign of the new marketing

For sale: first class schooling. Apply within

ERIC BEAUMONT



strategies will be the new, glossier school brochures, which are a far cry from the smudged duplicated sheets of only a few years ago.

The idea of selling the school is not altogether new, but the emphasis has shifted from an effort to heighten awareness of the school and its successes in the local community to the need to win more pupils and raise extra cash, often for the sophisticated computer systems now required, and certainly not wholly paid for, by the local authority. Even with grants, a simple network system of four computers costs a primary school of 200 pupils about £600 a year.

television is believed to be St George's Church of England School near Birmingham. Others have chosen commercial radio. All are anxious to make it clear that they are not advertising in an attempt to woo pupils away from other local schools, but to ensure that the largest possible number of people in the community are aware of their existence, their aims and successes.

"In the end we rejected the offer because it just seemed alien to the majority of governors. It was not, however, before many governors had said that, no matter how distasteful the suggestion was, it was the kind of thing we would have to consider. Now we will work out a strategy for the type of sponsorship we think acceptable. I think other schools will have to do the same just to protect themselves, for there is a whole new minefield out there waiting for the unwary."

'There is a whole new minefield out there waiting for the unwary'

Mr Hart says: "Competition will not be on even ground: the nature and location of a school's intake will determine its ability to generate funds from parents. The location of a school, as well as the attitude of local industry, will have a profound effect on the pattern of commercial sponsorship and links with industry."

The first school to advertise on

cleverly managed advertising campaign that played a key role in saving Sele School, a 500-pupil comprehensive in Hertfordshire.

Redevelopment in the area led to talk of closure, and rumours began to circulate that the school site was to be sold. Gradually, public opposition was mobilized, with letters sent to the local newspapers, councillors and MPs, and petitions giving warning about the possible educational and road safety - dangers that would follow closure.

The campaign took off with a full-page advertisement in the local press and a poster campaign in shops and houses near the school. The headline proclaimed: "Sele School is not being closed..." but the main thrust was in the small print which explained that the school was not being closed for educational reasons because there weren't any. The campaigners contended that Sele School faced closure because the council was bowing to Government demands to cut education spending.

Successful schools cannot ignore market pressures. Teachers are attending courses to brush up on their media relations and more good news about schools is beginning to appear in the media. A number of local education authorities, Buckinghamshire, for example, hold education awareness weeks in which schools can take the opportunity to promote themselves.

School governors have to be careful before accepting what on the face of it may seem generous offers from local businesses. According to the chairman of governors of a south London primary school: "A small company offering help in relocating businesses or moving home offered us £20 every time a parent registered with them. The parents would have paid £99.99 for registration and, in return, would have received a portable telephone not much cheaper than one they could have bought in a discount store. It was never apparently intended that they should merely buy a cheap telephone."

"In the end we rejected the offer because it just seemed alien to the majority of governors. It was not, however, before many governors had said that, no matter how distasteful the suggestion was, it was the kind of thing we would have to consider. Now we will work out a strategy for the type of sponsorship we think acceptable. I think other schools will have to do the same just to protect themselves, for there is a whole new minefield out there waiting for the unwary."



Portsmouth Polytechnic PRESIDENT

The Board of Governors invite applications for appointment to the post of President which is now vacant due to the recent death of Dr. Harry Law.

Portsmouth Polytechnic is a highly regarded corporate institution whose Board of Governors is accountable for overall policy and direction. As chief academic and chief executive, the President will have full responsibility for advising the Board on all important issues and for the leadership and general management of the Polytechnic.

The post requires a person of energy, experience and vision who has already achieved notable success in higher education, industry or commerce, together with a high level of academic credibility.

Persons wishing to be considered for the appointment or to propose possible candidates are asked to write in confidence to the Chairman c/o the Clerk to the Board of Governors, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Ravelin House, Museum Road, Portsmouth, Hants PO1 2QQ.

(Telephone 0705 843193) from whom an application form and further particulars may be obtained.

Applications are requested by Monday 2nd July 1990.

Portsmouth Polytechnic is an Equal Opportunities Employer

SECONDARY TEACHERS

Croydon is a supportive and forward looking authority which appreciates fully the needs of newly qualified teachers and those wishing to return to the profession. Through two well-designed induction schemes, probationers receive half a day and returners to teaching one day release per week throughout their first year of teaching. There are excellent opportunities for professional development within Croydon's Schools and through our well-established advisory and support service.

Croydon offers a wide range of leisure activities and fast rail links to Central London, the Surrey and Kent countryside, cross channel ferries and Gatwick Airport.

Croydon is currently arranging interviews for primary teachers who wish to commence their careers in September 1990.

Successful candidates, having been offered posts unconditionally, will then be invited to visit Schools where vacancies exist, in order to establish where they would be happy to teach.

Croydon is able to help provide accommodation and assistance with removal expenses for teachers coming from outside the borough, in addition the authority will pay £250 to newly qualified primary teachers who accept contracts and are prepared to commence their induction for 10 days in July in the Schools to which they have been appointed. Mature probationary teachers may qualify for incremental allowances.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from Brian McEwan and Peter Westlake at Haling Manor High School, Pampisford Wing, 139 Pampisford Road, South Croydon, CR0 6DH, or ring 081-660 9482.

CROYDON EDUCATION
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

THE HALL, HAMPSTEAD

Applications are invited for the post of

HEAD

which will become vacant on 1st September 1991, when Mr. R.P. Heazell retires after more than 15 years.

The Hall is a London Day Preparatory school and the present Head is a member of I.A.P.S. There are 375 boys, with two deputy heads, administrating the Junior and Senior parts of the school.

Full details of this appointment may be obtained from the Bursar, Mr. R.L. Orchard, The Hall, 23 Crossfield Road, London, NW3 4NU (Telephone 071 722 1700)

Closing date for applications is 15th July, 1990.

SURREY EDUCATION COMMITTEE
ST. PETER'S R.C.
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
Horseshoe Lane East, Marlow,
Galeford, Surrey, GU1 2TN

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM/R.E. TEACHER

(SNS + 'C' Allowance)

Required for September 1990, to lead a dedicated tutor team in continuing the development of a splendid Sixth Form and to make positive contributions to a well organised R.E. Department.

Subsidised accommodation is available and insurance Scheme.

Generous relocation package.

Further details and an application form are available from the Headteacher. Tel: 0483 34654.

Unique Opportunity for EFL Teacher in Switzerland

The English department of a leading business school in Switzerland has a vacancy as of October 1990 for a teacher of English with TOEFL or RSA qualifications.

To apply, please send a full CV and photograph to:

Dr. E.L. Kern,
Kadereschule St. Gallen,
Schreinerstr. 7,
CH-9001 St. Gallen

JAPAN ENGLISH INSTRUCTORS (2) WANTED

Native English, 3 years or less since graduated from University. Send resume, photo, university graduation certificate (in any field). To General Affairs Section, General Affairs Department, Fukui University of Technology, 3-1-6, Gakuzan, Fukui City, 910 Japan

TELEVISION

Anything but the World Cup

NOT the greatest or most gripping of tele-weekends, with World Cup footballers cluttering up the screen wherever you looked, and Robert Mitchum giving his inimitable impression of two tonnes of condemned veal across 150 minutes of ITV's *War and Remembrance*. This is a series to which I no longer have to pay filial attention, since its producers exploded my revered actor father with a land-mine at the end of the last episode, back in October.

Buried somewhere away from the soccer and the rubbish there were one or two intriguing oddities. At midnight on Saturday on Channel 4, Tony Benn made his debut as a chat-show host, with a poll-tax discussion of quite amazing tedium, the start of a series called *Burnning Embers*. This was produced by one of the most impressive stage directors of recent years, Rob Walker.

The only remarkable thing here is the set, an apparently deconsecrated church, filled with burning candles and at its centre what looks like a huge though equally mysterious wedding cake.

I watched for a while in the hope that Christopher Lee or Peter Cushing might leap up through the middle of it, announcing that his name was Dracula and bidding us welcome to his castle. No such luck, merely the occasional cutaway of big Ben himself, so laid back as to be virtually horizontal, but managing better than me, against all the odds, to keep his eyelids open, and dropping in the occasional historical aside about Wat Tyler and the Black Death.

Next week they are doing Socialism, and the week after it will be The New Europe. By week five we are promised a debate on Witches, though not of the contemporary political variety. I am still hoping for some fangs, even if we cannot have the full Hammer late-night horror. At least the time-slot is right, and Benn, when photographed as here from below his left elbow, does have a certain sinister, baroque majesty.

On BBC 1, *Open Space* looked at the racist and sexist abuse of minorities by club comedians, asking Bernard Manning why his jokes always discriminate against blacks and Chinese. "Well," said Manning philosophically, "they are here, aren't they? West Indians, West Africans coming in now with forged papers. This is my home and if they don't feel at home they can always go back."

There is, as another and infinitely greater comic used to say, no answer to that.

The dehumanizing of entire groups is taken for granted by performers such as Manning, who seem to have found no connection between racial persecution and their lazy, sloppy, ancient jokes.

No comedian has yet been prosecuted in Britain for incitement to racial hatred; a test case might soon be worth trying, if only by Mrs Whitehouse. Meanwhile,

Manning proudly notes that he offends everyone, not least the Japanese, "lest we forget".

Channel 4, the only one to stay mercifully free of sport in prime time all weekend, came up with *Movie Masterclass*, in which students of the National Film and Television School are lectured on the films of Bergman, Ray and Fassbinder. Starting deep in Scandinavian pseudery, Terence Davies told us that old Ingmar had a difficult birth, a conclusion which even a casual glance at any of his movies would surely confirm.

Davies himself seems to be a character out of a minor Woody Allen film of unevenly Nordic intellectual life, but his clips were more or less the right ones, and there was the indication that he could yet grow up to be the academic solution to Barry Norman.

The Secret Museum was a splendid Channel 4 preview, by Stephen Phillips, of the new Courtauld Institute Galleries at Somerset House. Griff Rhys-Jones toured them in understandably wide-eyed amazement at the treasures of Manet, Rubens, Van Gogh and Gauguin now to be seen in the place one used to visit merely in search of certificates of birth, marriage and death.

Its newly-acquired riches will make it the artistic treat of the London year.

If you want to see one of the original Seurat canvases which inspired and informed Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*, now at the National Theatre, that is at the new Courtauld. So, too, is the desk of Sir Anthony Blunt, no longer a classified area. Alternatively, you could nip in to the Inland Revenue, along the Somerset House corridor, and check the tax status of bequests to the nation.

PROMS 90

Royal Albert Hall 20 July - 15 September

Telephone/personal booking opens today!

Proms hot-line: 071-823 9998

Box Office open 9am-9pm seven days a week

Proms Guide on sale from all good booksellers, music shops and newsagents

OPERA

Some light relief from the West

English National Opera is making the first tour of the Soviet Union by a British opera company. Nick Worrall reports from Kiev

The audience in the wonderfully baroque Kiev opera house stood and cheered. Local stagehands said it was the greatest ovation they had ever seen there for an opera performance. The soprano, Lesley Garrett, burst into tears. Hundreds of flowers were hurled onto the stage.

English National Opera's Soviet Union tour — the first ever by a British company — was firmly launched with a performance of Handel's *Xerxes*.

Local audiences such as those here in Kiev, capital of Ukraine and the Soviet Union's third largest city, are not used to this free-flowing style performance using a small orchestra, mobile sets and endless innovation. What they know is heavy and traditional with set-piece scenes; long folk dramas, always tragic, deep in colour and dark in their staging; vast choirs, big voices.

This was the first time leading Kiev critic Ludmilla Zhitina, editor of *Teatr* magazine, had seen a Handel opera. She said it must be the first ever in the Soviet Union. And she was thrilled.

"It is a beautiful ensemble," she said, during the first interval as excited Ukrainians chattered around. "The orchestra sounds like the fluttering wings of a butterfly. The singing is like a spring in the forest, natural, without tension, the flow swift and clean."

It took half an hour or so for the audience, packed into every corner of the 19th-century Taras Shevchenko opera house, to get the hang of what was happening. There was a woman — Ann Murray — singing the leading male role of Xerxes. There was a man — Christopher Robson — singing Arsaces, the King's brother,

but with an alto voice. There were white-faced footmen like marble statues moving props to the beat of the music in surroundings that they must have regarded at first as a joke, so little resemblance did it bear to early Persia. This *Xerxes* is set in Handel's time and was conceived in 1985 as a 300th birthday tribute.

Opera in the Soviet Union is not a joking matter, so laughs at this long romantic comedy, sung in English, of course, were at first slow in coming. The brisk, glittering pace and the exhilaration of the performers soon won them over.

The sheer sparkle and subtle integrity of the orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras earned the players flowers and cheers when they came on for Act III.

The loudest cries of "bravo"

came from the *Literaturnaya Gazeta*'s influential opera critic, Alexei Parin, who, five minutes before the end, had to dash for his all-night train home to Moscow.

This *Xerxes* was played to people who have been starved of the kind of cultural experience that is commonplace now for the devotees of uninhibited modern companies such as ENO.

"We need this like we need air," said Alina Kozaichenko, a musician. "It is a wonderful experience and we have waited many years for it. But I do not know how our musicians will be able to pick up their instruments again, after hearing this orchestra."

There are stories of stage-hands looking open-mouthed at the haircuts, the male earrings, the cordless electric screwdrivers, astonished at the technology involved. Where Soviet opera takes place before static, traditional flat sets, the ENO has trucked in techniques never dreamed of before: lighting that changes to fit

mood and scene, scenic projection and remote-controlled explosions.

But there is no envy, just great affection, hospitality, endless presents of cakes, flowers and wine from local staff whose monthly incomes are less than three or four days' pay to the ENO company members. All that compensates the visitors for the frustrations arising from the ignorance of modern techniques and requirements.

There is the example of the grand piano, needed in the pit for the second night in Kiev, Britten's *Turn of the Screw*. Grand pianos do not go into orchestra pits in the Soviet Union. Anthony Phillips, of Entertainment Corporation, the London entrepreneurs who arranged the tour with the Soviet monopoly Goskonsert, spent four days persuading obstinate theatre officials not only that the thing should be in the pit and tuned to A440 as stated in the massive, highly detailed contract signed with the Soviets, but that it could be brought in without damaging this historic listed building.

The piano was finally eased into place with one official marching band off in the direction of the Communist Party office — every theatre and enterprise has one — saying darkly: "There'll be talk about this. There will be conversation."

As the company arrived for the first time this week at the Slavutich Hotel, on the banks of the Dnieper River, every member was handed a bunch of carnations. It is not a tourist hotel but a special one for Party officials. There is no bar and the quality of furniture and facilities is low by Western standards.

But great efforts have been made with food: even 55 special diets out of the 240 company



Surprise for the Soviet audience: Ann Murray singing the male title role of Handel's *Xerxes*

members. Given the country's chronic food shortages, the long queues in the shops and economic collapse, the meals are a miracle.

It is the result of months of hard work by the tour's organizers Ruth Anders is a former stage manager and now a freelance tour organizer. She has never previously had to contend with problems like those in the Soviet Union. Communications are terrible; there is a lack of organization and a dearth of people who will take responsibility to act on a decision. Many of the company were apprehensive about the after-effects of the nuclear power plant disaster at Chernobyl, north of Kiev. There had been reports that radiation was affecting Ukrainian food supplies. Anders had an expert brought in, in London, to reassure the nervous, but several ENO employees decided against

Peter Jonas, ENO's general director, says he has wanted a Soviet tour for years. And he is proud that his company is the first British opera in a country with such great traditions and at such a time of change.

"Who would have thought that the choice of *Xerxes* as an opener would have been so apt in terms of building bridges between West and East?" he said, amused at the thought that, in his production, *Xerxes'* bridge of boats collapses noisily.

With Kiev under their belts, the performers are looking ahead to being the first Britons to sing in Moscow's great Bolshoi Theatre, and then at the renowned Kirov Theatre in Leningrad. Confidence is high and there are plenty of laughs, despite the tiny Soviet beds and infestations of cockroaches.

THEATRE

Down in the forest, something stirs

Simon Tait meets the team behind the latest Stephen Sondheim musical to reach London



Designer and director: Richard Hudson (left) and Richard Jones

CRITICS' CHOICE: THEATRE AND CABARET

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current London shows can be found overleaf

NEW IN LONDON

AFTER THE FALL: At long last, the London premiere of Arthur Miller's fine and moving play on marriage, love, the Holocaust and the Meek. Blakemore returns to the National to direct Jeanne Moreau as Miller, Josephine Simon as Marty. National Theatre (Coateside), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252).

Underground/BR: Waterloo. Previews from Fri, 7.30pm. Opens June 20, 7pm. Then in repertory.

JULIUS CAESAR: Pip Donaghy, Dee McAleer and Martin Clunes struggle for the reins of the Empire. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, NW1 (071-985 2431). Underground: Baker Street/Negoro's Park. Previews tonight, 7.45pm. Opens Wed, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat and Wed, 2.30pm, until June 20, then in repertory with *Much Ado About Nothing*.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

BEACHED: Kevin Hood's first play (his

latest, *Sugar Hill Blues*, transfers to Hampstead next month) revived with the original cast of Leonie Mellinger and Ian Targett as the two fugitives.

Old Red Lion, 418 St John Street, EC1 (071-837 7816). Underground: Angel. Preview tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Wed, 7pm. Then Tues-Sun, 8pm. Until June 26.

MAY DAYS: Second week in the season of dialogues on public issues. (Works by Julie Birchill, Marlene Karge, Antoni Libera continue in main theatre.) New programme in Theatre Upstairs: Fay Welton on a vision of the future (Thurs-Sat, 10.30pm, mat Sat, 3.15pm). David Hart on the last days of Stalin (mats Thurs and Fri, 3.15pm, Sat, 7pm). Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Underground: Sloane Square (Phone box office for further programme details).

OUTSIDE LONDON

CAMBRIDGE: Footlights Revue. Annual display by new and possibly bright young talents.

Arts Theatre, St Edmund's Passage (0223 352000). Opens tomorrow, 8pm. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 23.

CHICHESTER: Endyce, First English production since 1960 of Anouk's warts-and-all play on the earthy awfulness of life contrasted with the passions of pure love.

Minerva Theatre, Oaklands Park (0243 780192). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.45pm, Sat, 2.45pm and 7.45pm. In repertory with a spell-binding Theresa Rebeck.

FARNHAM: *The Trial of Lady Chatterley*. Following the performance of my current production, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, will be two charity performances of Edwin Pearce's play on the 1960 trial, presented by Richard Hoggart, one of the defence witnesses. Redgrave Theatre, Brightwells (0227 0000). Fri, Sat, 7pm.

MANCHESTER: Crazy People.

Double bill of *Birth of the Goon*,

recalling their early years at the BBC.

and *Funniest Thing I Ever Learned*.

Box Office open 9am-9pm seven days a week

and *Funny as Hell*, a tale of a modern alternative comedian.

Library Theatre, St Peter's Square (061 236 7110). Opens Fri, 8pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm. Until July 7.

PLYMOUTH: Abracondu's Frank Langella as a professional illusionist whose stage tricks get out of hand.

Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 267229). Opens today, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 30.

JEREMY KINGSTON

LONDON CABARET

BENEFIT FOR THE TERENCE HIGGINS TRUST: Tom Robinson, as accomplished a raconteur as he is a musician, will perform an extended set, other names include John Lowrie, Jeremy Hardy and Patrick Marber, plus others from the London Cabaret Experience.

Old Theatre, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, WC2 (071-955 7136). Underground: Holborn, Wed, 8pm, £5 (£3).

NO EXCUSES: The London Disability Arts Forum present the No Excuses Theatre Company from Liverpool at three London venues this week. All with sign language interpretation.

Red Rose Club, 129 Seven Sisters Road, N7 (071-263 7265). Underground: Finchley Park/Holloway Road, Wed, 8.30pm, £3 (£1.50). The Diorama, 14 Peacock Place, NW1 (071-487 5568). Underground: Great Portland Street, Thurs, 8.30pm, £3 (£1.50). Chat's Palace, 42-44 Brookly's Walk, E9 (081-995 714). British Rail: Hoxton High Street, Fri, 8.30pm, £3 (£1.50).

CHUCKLE CLUB: Voted by most

performers as the merriest atmosphere in town, Hattie Hayridge, John Moloney, Bob Mills and resident compere, Eugene Cheese.

The Stag, 15 Bressenden Place, SW1 (071-476 1672). Underground/BR: Victoria, Sat, doors 7.45pm, show 8.30pm, £4 (£2).

GLASGOW: Stu Who and Friends.

The chequered Who always attracts a crowd, here he introduces Ozzy, Cenninian, with Wendy Lee and Philip McGrade.

The Shelter, 7 Renfrew Court, Renfrew Chambers, Renfrew Street (041 332 6231). Fri, doors 8.30pm, show 9.30pm, £4.50 (£2.50).

EDINBURGH: Bill as Glasgow.

Gilded Balloon Theatre, 23 Cowgate (031 225 3013). Sat, doors 8.30pm, show 9.30pm, £4.50 (£2.50).

DOWNTOWN AT THE KING'S HEAD: Performers here put to the challenge of the extended set, no problem for the versatile Chris Lyman or the absurd Lee Evans.

King's Head, 2 Crouch End Hill, N8 (081-340 1029). Underground/BR: Finsbury Park, then W7 bus. Sat, doors 8pm, show 8.30pm, £3.50 (£2.50) plus 50p membership.

PUNCHLINE COMEDY CLUB: Satire is not dead when Paul Condell is to hand. With Paul Ramone, Keith Dover and Pierre Hollings.

7's Out

الليلة في العمل

THE TIMES MONDAY JUNE 11 1990

TELEVISION & RADIO

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALL

BBC 1

- 6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Mayer and Fiona Foster 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and Weather. Followed by Travel Show Guide. The travel programme which gets away from the blandness of the brochures and tells you what's wrong as well as what's right today turns its critical eye on Scotland (1)
9.35 Discovering Birds. Tony Soper wakes you up with the joys of bird watching (1)
10.00 News and weather followed by The Pink Panther Show 10.25 Playdays. Today's story in Rosie's Train Ride by Brian Jameson
10.50 Cricket: First Test. Tony Lewis introduces coverage of the opening session of the fourth day's play between England and New Zealand, five from Trent Bridge. The commentators are Richie Benaud and Jack Bennett with summaries by Ray Illingworth, Tom Graveney and Geoff Boycott. Includes news and weather at 10.55 and 12.00, 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 Gids: Oxford News with Nicholas Witchell. Weather 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax)
1.50 Cricket: First Test. Further coverage of the fourth day's play between England and New Zealand live from Trent Bridge, introduced by Tony Lewis
2.15 The Six Million Dollar Man. Understanding adventures of a man-made man. When a politician's plane crash-lands on its way to investigate a plane crash, one of the occupants—a certain Steve Austin decides to investigate. Starring Lee Majors
3.05 Bazaar. Janice Long presents the topical magazine which includes the final of the Box Beautiful Competition, how to design a health

- farm weekend in your own home and how to sew without stitching.
3.30 Cartoons
3.50 ChuckleVision (r) 4.05 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon capers with the famous duo (r) 4.10 The New Lassie: Occurrences at Glen Ridge. The canny canine is impounded by the Animal Control Department after she attacks a man, who is known to the McCullough family, she stays while he was hiding in the woods. (Ceefax)
4.35 Dr Who. Star Wars-type science fiction adventures. (Ceefax)
4.55 Newsround 5.05 Blue Peter with Yvette Fielding, John Leslie and Diane Louise Jordan. Includes reports on the Seafire Centre in Hastings and a survey on vegetarianism. (Ceefax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) Northern Ireland: Sportsworld 5.40 Inside Ulster 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Mark Stuart. Weather 6.30 Regional News from Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Wogan. With Charlton Heston, Willem Dafoe and Esther Rantzen.
7.40 Bread. Carla Lane's bittersweet subversive sitcom which has made social security scrounging into cult viewing. Freddie Boswell announces that he is selling his flat to help Joey sort out his debt, but then realizes that he has made himself homeless (r). (Ceefax)
8.10 All Creatures Great and Small. The all-purpose schedule-filler now turns up on Monday. It is the episode in which television finally arrives in the Yorkshire Dales, much to the pleasure of Robert Hardy's despicably over-the-top Siegfried. There is also a collapsing cat and an old man dying of cancer. All human (and animal) life is here. (r). (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. Regional news and weather
9.30 Panorama: Selling Our Schools. A report by Robin McAuley which questions whether the

- Government's policy of linking schools' incomes to the number of pupils they can attract will enhance or detract from the standard of education. Parental choice, the Government argues, will make schools more efficient and accountable to the views and the wishes of the consumer—namely the parents and children. Critics claim the popular schools will thrive on their fees, while those unpopular ones could be forced to close if they are unable to break out of the vicious circle of fewer resources, a sinking image and fewer students. McAuley goes to Campion School in Leamington to see how a typical secondary school is faring under the new policy
10.10 Miami Vice. The designer cop series set in Miami and starring Don Johnson and Philip Michael Thomas. This week, a Johnny bondwoman mixed up in his crew's affairs is shot dead. She gets on the winning side of the law. After much action, no small amount of inter-Crockett family anger and a promise never to do it again by Sonny's cousin the problem is resolved
11.00 World Cup Report. With ITV grabbing live coverage of both the day's big matches, the BBC has to be content with the leftovers. This means highlights of England v the Republic of Ireland and Scotland v Costa Rica, plus post-mortems from three skilful former players, Trevor Brooking, Kenny Dalglish, who has more of his Liverpool players in the team than the English or Scottish squads, and, making his first appearance at this level, Liam Brady.
12.00 Cricket: First Test. After the bustle of the opening games of the World Cup it is pleasant to return to the relative serenity of Test cricket. Richie Benaud takes us through the fourth day's play between England and New Zealand from Trent Bridge

12.30am Weather

BBC 2

- 7.10 Open University: Social Problems and Social Welfare—Why Care?
8.00 News
8.15 Westminster. Last Friday's proceedings in Parliament presented by Peter Mayne
8.30 Daytime on Two: sports that use natural forces for propulsion 8.50 Opportunities for working in the hairdressing, beauty therapy and sales businesses 9.10 Pharaohs' tombs 9.25 Young French people from Rouen talk about their lives 9.40 Difficult opening days in a first job 11.00 The pros and cons of the Channel tunnel 11.20 The second of a two-part play about teenagers experiencing their first serious relationship 11.40 Problems for 10- to 12-year-olds 11.45 Creative use of computers in the classroom 11.50 Emergency first aid. (Ceefax)
12.00 Science for the young 12.15 Mao's 42-year leadership of the Chinese Communist party 12.35 Maths: graphs 12.50 Spelling rules. (Ceefax) 1.00 Glass making in Rotherham; the story of London's Crystal Palace and Bronze Age carvings on a Yorkshire moor 1.20 Green Claws 1.40 What life was like on board a Tudor warship
2.00 News and weather followed by Words and Pictures
2.15 Cricket: First Test. England v New Zealand. Coverage of the fourth day's play from Trent Bridge. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50

- 6.30 DEF II begins with UB40. The Birmingham band performs songs from their album Labour of Love (r)
7.10 East. Shyama Perera and Krishnan Guru-Murthy examine why Asian parents are reluctant to adopt and how this affects Asian children in need of families. Plus a report on the tensions in Benazir Bhutto's home province of Sind.
7.40 Fruity Passions. Margaret Vaughan looks at the range of berries used to make country wines in the Highlands. (Ceefax)

- 8.00 News and Weather
8.10 Horizon: Signs of Life. • The eternal dream of scientists to create "life" is coming steadily closer to

- reality, and we are not talking about Dr Frankenstein and his monster. After many hits and misses, quaintly charted in old newscasts, computer technology has provided the breakthrough. Researchers into artificial life are using computers to simulate organisms, which can evolve and multiply on their own. To the lay person these abstract images look hardly more threatening than dungeons and dragons and Benjamin Woolley's otherwise admirable guide to a difficult concept tends to shy away from the wider implications.
Endorsements of the alternative biology come from the zoologists and best-selling author Richard Dawkins and from a pioneer of artificial life, Chris Langton, who raises the frightening prospect of phenomena emerging independently of human control. (Ceefax)

- 9.00 Film: Tales of Terror (1962) starring Vincent Price, Peter Lorne and Basil Rathbone. The Curse of Crimson series continues with stylishly gruesome stories of spirit possession, infidelity and revenge and hypnosis beyond the grave. Directed by Roger Corman. (Ceefax)

- 10.30 Newsnight. The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. Presented by Francine Stock
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine
11.55 Weather
12.00 Open University. The Great Exhibition. Ends at 12.30am

Chris Langton: pioneer of artificial life (8.10pm)

RADIO 1

- FM Stereo and MW
5.00am Steve Madden 6.30 Bruno Brookes 8.20 Simon Young 9.30 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 9.50 News 10.00 Mark Goodier 7.30 The Mike Read Collection 8.30 John Peel 9.30 Richard Stilgoe 12.00-2.00am Bob Harris

RADIO 2

- FM Stereo
4.00am Steve Madden 5.30 Chris Tarrant 7.30 Anne Robinson 5.30 Judith Chalmers 7.09 Anne Young 1.50pm David Jacobs 2.50 Gloria Hunniford 3.30 News and Weather. Followed by Words and Pictures
2.15 Cricket: First Test. England v New Zealand. Coverage of the fourth day's play from Trent Bridge. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50

RADIO 3

- 6.55am News and Weather
7.00 Morning Concert: Handel (Concerto grosso in G, Op 3 No 8; English Concerto; Brandenburg Variations on a Theme by Haydn; Central Orchestra under Dohnanyi)
7.30 News

- 7.35 Debussy (Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune: LULLY under Claudio Abbado; Ravel's 'Bacchanale' from 'Orphée au Catalogue des Naïades') Op 24 No 3; Krystian Zimerman, piano; Liszt (Piano Concerto No 2 in A: Boston 8.30 Solo Sinfonia Ozawa); Gounod (Faust) under Charles Dutoit)

- 8.00 Composers of the Week: Benjamin Britten. A survey of his non-operatic output from the 1930s to his death. Piano Concerto, 1938 (ECM under the composer); Les Illuminations, 1939 (Northern Sinfonia under Neville Marriner); Morning Sequence (FM only from 10.55): Haydn (Symphony No 6 'Le Matin'; English Concert under Trevor Pinnock); Schubert (Mémoires, guitar); Dvořák (In Nature's Realm; Ulster Orchestra under Vernon Handley); son (Anx Phèbus Aureo) 1900; Britten (London Consort under Philip Pickett); Brahms (Piano Concerto in C minor); Vienna Octet Members); Delius (The Walk to the Paradise Garden: LSO under John Barbirolli); Purcell (My Beloved Speaks: Choir of King's College Cambridge under Preston); Copland (Appalachian Spring: Los Angeles PO under Bernstein); Haydn (Cupid); Eine sehr gewöhnliche Operette: Maria-Lisa-Lob der Faule; Emma Kirkby, soprano; Stephen Varcoe, baritone; Peter Seymour, fortepiano)

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- 10.55-6.30pm Test Match Special (MW only): England v New Zealand. The fourth day of the first Cornhill Test from Trent Bridge 10.05pm News 1.10 Talking Point with Pat Murphy 1.30 County Scoreboard 1.40-6.30 The Bookstall, including 6.45 at the Bookstall

- 11.55 BBC Scottish SO (FM only) under Fedor Glushchenko, with Vladimir Ovchinnikov, piano, performing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 2 (original version); Glinka (Dances from Ruslan and Ludmilla)

RADIO 4

RADIO 4

- 1.00pm News (FM only)

- 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert (FM only), featuring Sir John St John, Simon Square, London. The pianist Janina Fialkowska performs Bach, arr Liszt (Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 543); Ravel (Le Tombeau de Couperin); Liszt (Liebestraum)

- 2.05 Music Weekly (FM only) (r)

- 2.50 Royal Amsterdam Concertgebouw (FM only) under Riccardo Chailly performs Brahms' Symphony No 2 in D

- 3.35 Eric Shipton (FM only): The Shipton Years, with Stephan Leon, piano, performs Bloch's Suite Hébraïque; Vieuxtemps (Capriccio); Rubinstein (Sonata in F minor, Op 49); Kreisler (Preludes and Allegros)

- 4.35 The Royal Festival of Brass (FM only): The Layland DAF Band under Richard Evans performs music from five continents. Balissai (Sinfonia No 2); McCormick (Ash Wednesday); Judith (Morning Star); James Curnow (Titania); Yemamoto (Warabu-Utsu)

- 5.30 Mainly for Pleasure (FM only with 6.30) with Fiona Takkington

- 9.00 Start the Week with Melvyn Bragg (s)

- 10.00 News: Money Box (r)

- 10.30 Morning Story: Father Bruno's Own Goal, by Brian Gemmill. Hosted by Shirley Strickland and Fran Ferguson

- 10.45 Drama from Dundee Cathedral (s)

- 11.00 News: Down Your Way: Michael Bell, newly-appointed Bishop of Truro, visits some of his new Cornish neighbours (r)

- 11.40 Poets' Picnic: Simon Armitage: The first of four programmes from Gramercy in the Lake District. Poet and playwright Tony Harrison is the special guest. He reads from his poems William Wordsworth (s)

- 12.00 News: Your Yours with John Howard

- 12.25pm Brains of Britain 1990: Chaired by Robert Robinson. First round – the West. The contestants and their answers (including a civil servant),

- 1.00pm Simon Maltzberg, Scottish CO under Steven Bradford, with Steven Issacs, cello, performs Mendelssohn (Overture, A Midsummer Night's Dream); British (Symphony No 1); and others (Op 68) 8.45 The early days of Aldeburgh are discussed by Nancy Evans and Eric Crozier in conversation with Anthony Brunsden 9.00 Birthdays: Davies (An Orchestral Wedding, with Sunrisa); Beethoven (Sunrise); Bathsheba (8 in F)

- 10.00 Off-Side: An account of a brief visit by a Czech to Berlin in the days of the Wall, related through a collection of drawings of animals in glass cages, a girl in an emotional mesh and silhouettes seen from a viewing platform. Read by Alex Jennings

- 10.25 The Big Picture: The Private Lives of the Rich and Famous

- 11.00 Composers of the Week: J.C. Bach (r)

- 12.00 News 12.05am Close

- 1.00pm News (FM only)

- 1.30pm News (FM only)

- 1.45pm News (FM only)

- 2.00pm News (FM only)

- 2.15pm News (FM only)

- 2.30pm News (FM only)

- 2.45pm News (FM only)

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- 4.55pm News (FM only)

- 5.00pm News (FM only)

- 5.15pm News (FM only)

- 5.30pm News (FM only)

- 5.45pm News (FM only)

- 5.55pm News (FM only)

- 5.55pm

MPs censure Parkinson for nuclear cost 'muddle'

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

MR CECIL Parkinson, former Secretary of State for Energy, is censured for failing to determine the true costs of building Sizewell B nuclear power station and for mis-handling electricity privatization in a report to be published by the Tory-dominated Commons energy committee.

The report will demand a delay on the building of new nuclear plants until the costs of generating nuclear power are known. The report will criticize "the muddle" made by the Department of Energy under Mr Parkinson, and the Central Electricity Generating Board, for failing to monitor, and admit to, the rising costs of nuclear power.

The committee's investigation also discovered that no proper cost analysis has been done on the Sizewell B project, the only pressurized water-cooled reactor (PWR) station being built. A decision on whether to abandon work on Sizewell B in Suffolk cannot be made without a realistic analysis of the effect on electricity prices, the MPs will conclude in their report, finalized last week and to be published later this month.

The Labour Party has said that it would almost certainly scrap Sizewell B, scheduled to be completed by 1994. Anti-nuclear campaigners have said that the costs on the project are out of control.

The latest published construction figure for the power station at 1987 prices is £1.87 billion. However, the committee was repeatedly told that the estimate bore no relation to the "true costs" as it virtually ignored the costs of nuclear fuel re-processing and de-commissioning.

Lazard Brothers, financial advisers on electricity privatization, has admitted in evidence to be published in the report that it warned the Central Electricity Generating Board and its successor, National Power, of the unknown costs to Sizewell B and other nuclear power plants.

Lazard prepared a paper for talks with potential lending banks for financing Sizewell B making clear that the banks would want protection against unknown costs. However, the talks were not finished before the Government was forced to embark on abandoning its plans for privatizing nuclear power.

Lazard said: "On the basis of those discussions that we had had with potential lending banks, we advised National Power that while it should be possible to secure bank fin-

anced for Sizewell B, the banks would require that most of the particular risks of nuclear power ... were either passed on to the final consumer or were borne by the Government."

As Mr Parkinson switched last July from the Department of Energy to the Department of Transport, the Government announced it would exclude the ageing Magnox nuclear power stations from the privatization programme. Mr John Wakeham, his successor, later announced that all nuclear power plants would be removed from the sale of the electricity supply industry.

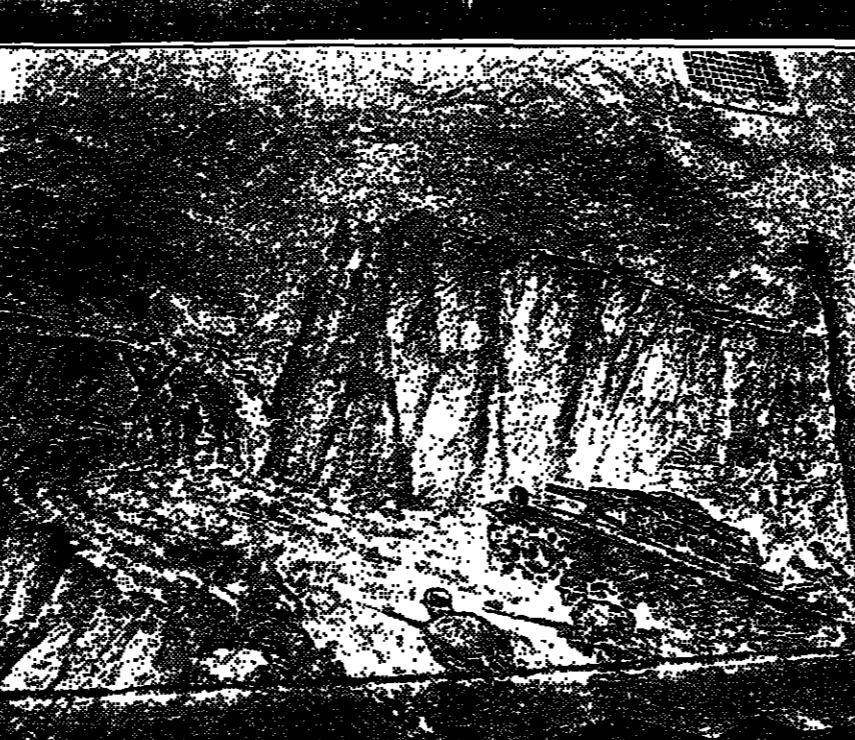
The committee's post-mortem on the turnabout accuses Mr Parkinson of ignoring persistent warnings that the nuclear power stations could not be sold off unless the Government pledged to meet the costs of decommissioning them when they became extinct or was prepared to pass them on to consumers.

The draft report of the committee chairman, Dr Michael Clark, described Mr Parkinson's manner as "dilettante". Although it has been toned down slightly in the finalized version it still delivers a damaging blow-by-blow critique of his handling of the doomed venture.

The committee has been helped by the unusually frank submissions for the first time of working documents of the negotiations by the Department of Energy and from financial advisers.

Lazard said it advised National Power from the start that the burden of nuclear power could "prejudice" its position in the conventional generating market and put off potential shareholders. "It was not possible to provide a precise quantification of the costs due to the high level of uncertainty surrounding almost all long-term estimates of the costs and risks of the nuclear industry. In particular, we advised National Power that the financial markets were strongly averse to uncertainty in this context."

It added: "We accordingly advised National Power that it would only have been possible to privatize National Power with the nuclear stations provided the particular risks associated with nuclear power, mainly the unlimited nature of many of the liabilities, were explicitly dealt with and either were borne by a third party (eg, government or the consumer) or were capable of being determined with a high degree of certainty."



A detail from one of the murals with Nazis cowering behind a tree and SS officers in the foreground, top, while below, terrified British soldiers surrender beneath the cliffs of Dover to the much bigger German officers, and right, an excavator removing rubble above the entrance to the bunker uncovered when the Berlin Wall debris was removed.



Murals to glory of Nazis are revealed in bunker

Continued from page 1

In another painting terrified British troops, shown as much smaller than the German men, surrender beneath the white cliffs of Dover, as an enemy tank approaches. On a narrow wall near the entrance to what was thought to be a rest room, a British aircraft plummets to the ground with an eagle twice its size clinging to the tailplane. All the murals are edged with oak leaves and acorns, an SS symbol, and eagles feature repeatedly.

Stacked high in the bunker when it was opened were boxes of ammunition, various weapons, a rocket-launcher together with crates of empty claret bottles. Around it now are numerous holes in the ground from where explosives experts have dug out 124,000 rounds of ammunition, 141 hand grenades, 28 bazookas, two large bombs, a rocket and a dozen assorted guns as they make the area safe for the performance of "The Wall", by the rock group, Pink Floyd, planned for July 21.

Colonel-Lieutenant Manfred Fleck, aged 52, head of the East German border guard which oversees the site, said: "From a technical point of view they are the work of amateurs. When I look at them and consider their content it is horrible. They portray Nazi ideology and glorify it."

"When you think of the crimes they committed and see the meaning in the pictures, it is hard to imagine they really were that optimistic and believed in victory at that stage of the war. The pictures are primitive and not even there at all important to art history."

It was Col-Li Fleck's face which flashed around the world as he grasped a rose offered by those who scaled the wall and began tearing it down by hand.

"It has now been sealed and covered over. Nobody can get in. It will be up to the historians and authorities to decide what happens to it, but it should be destroyed otherwise there is a danger of it becoming a neo-Nazi shrine," he said.

Mr Mick Worwood, producer of the concert, has shown photographs of the pictures to experts at the German Historical Institute, London. "When I first put on waders and went in to look it was very eerie. They really are very chilling to see. The fact that this unofficial art, or SS graffiti as it has been called, is even there at all is quite extraordinary. Nobody was ever expecting to find a bunker."

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS

MONDAY JUNE 11 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

John Brown enters its second Soviet deal

JOHN Brown, the engineering arm of Trafalgar House, is to enter a second joint venture in the Soviet Union, a \$400-\$500 million project to build a chemicals complex at Novy Urengoy in western Siberia.

Production at the first phase of the plant will reach 300,000 tonnes a year of ethylene and polyethylene. There is potential for subsequent phases of similar size.

John Brown helped set up the first Soviet-British engineering and trading company, ASETCO, with Morgan Grenfell, Moscow Narodny Bank and Soviet chemical manufacturing organizations in April 1988. Among the partners in the new venture, to be known as ASETCO (Novy Urengoy), are Morgan Grenfell and Gaspro, the Soviet state gas concern.

Young for C&W 'speculation'

Cable and Wireless describes reports that Lord Young, the former trade secretary, was about to succeed Lord Sharp as chairman as "speculation."

The reports suggest Lord Young will take up the C&W post next October, with Mr Gordon Dunlop, the deputy chief executive, moving up to chief executive. The group's year-end results are due on Wednesday. The market is expecting pre-tax profits of between £510 and £525 million (£420 million).

Reporting This Week, page 29

Wall St talks of BTR buying

Speculation is growing on Wall Street that BTR is building a hostile stake in Maytag, the American household products producer. Maytag shares rose \$1.63 to \$18.63 in heavy trading on Friday.

Maytag, of Iowa, has reported a \$131.5 million profit, down 17 per cent, on sales of \$3 billion in 1989. It has been a relatively poor performer in recent years, with earnings per share last year of \$1.27, down 38.6 per cent on the year, showing a return to investors of 5.2 per cent. The company's market capitalization is about \$1.9 billion.

Laporte plant

Laporte, the chemicals group, plans to build a £10 million plant in Alberta, Canada. It will manufacture DDI, the key ingredient in a new anti-Aids drug, among other products. Completion is planned for the first half of 1992.

Shell in China

Shell is planning a \$2 billion Chinese joint venture to set up an oil refinery and ethylene plant, the state-owned *China Daily* reported. Half the investment for the plant, which will be built in Huizhou, in the southern Guangdong province, will be provided by the British-based Shell Transport and Trading, the paper said.

Phillips grows

Phillips, the London auction house, has opened offices in Düsseldorf and Stockholm to strengthen its presence in Europe. It is also moving into South America.

STOCK MARKET

CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar	1.6830 (same)
W German mark	2.8544 (+0.0034)
Exchange index	89.5 (+0.4)

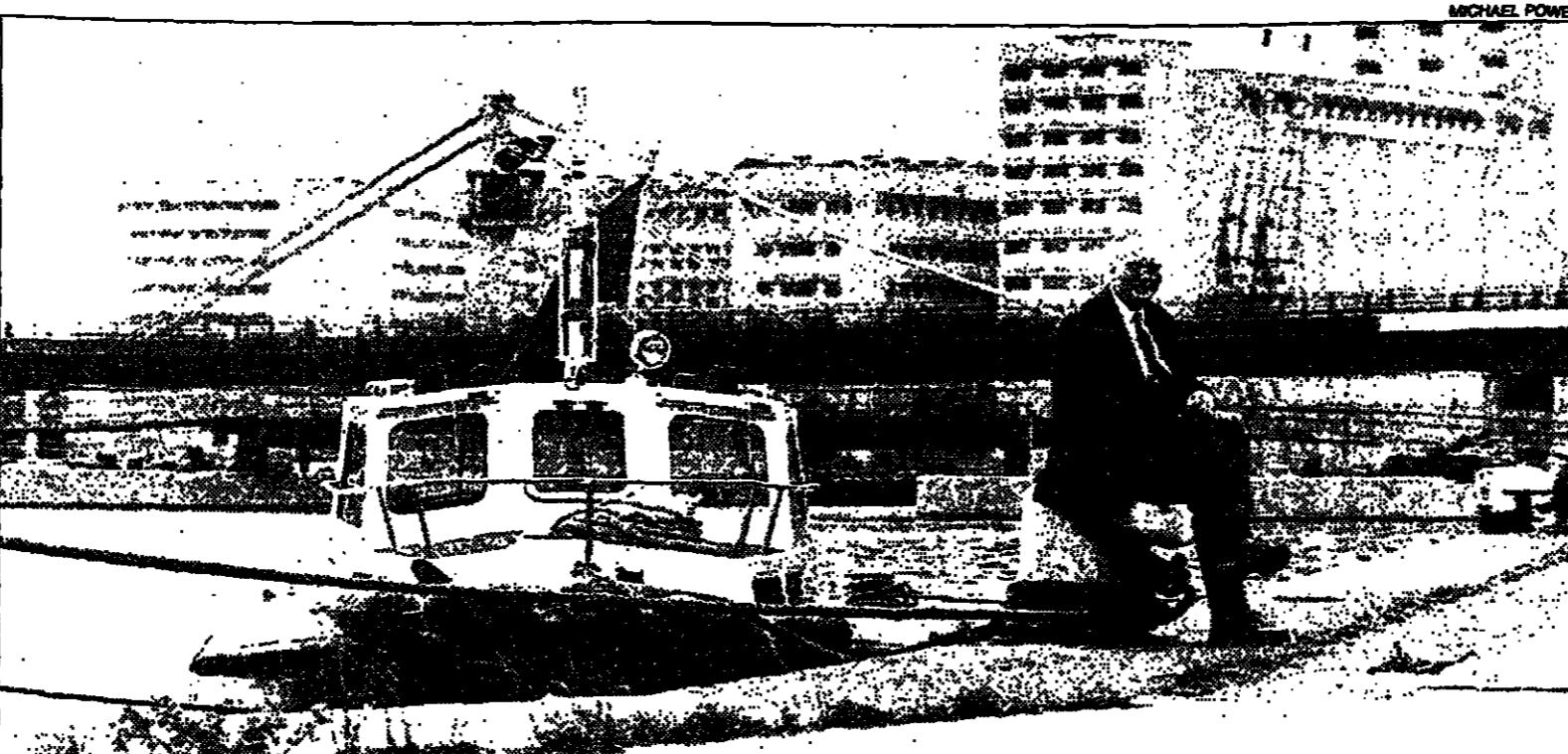
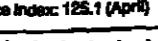
STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1892.7 (+10.3)
FT-SE 100
2366.6 (-4.8)
New York Dow Jones
2662.38 (-38.59)

FOREIGN RATES

	Bank Sales	Bank Sales
Australia \$	2.315	2.115
Austria Sch	20.90	19.60
Belgium Fr	2.05	1.95
Canada \$	1.35	1.25
Denmark Kr	10.65	10.50
Finland Mark	7.02	6.90
France Fr	10.10	9.90
Germany DM	2.97	2.84
Greece Dr	.265	.255
Hong Kong \$	13.22	12.90
Iceland Fr	1.065	1.050
Italy Lira	2190	2060
Japan Yen	272	255
Netherlands Gld	3.42	3.25
New Zealand \$	1.44	1.37
Portugal Esc	.281	.249
South Africa Rnd	5.70	5.10
Spain Pts	183.50	175.00
Sweden Kr	10.72	10.12
Switzerland Fr	2.54	2.38
Turkey Lira	4855.00	4165.00
USA \$	1.765	1.665
Yugoslavia Dinar	24.00	18.00

For small denominations, ask only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 125.1 (April)



On the waterfront: David Hardy, chairman of Globe Investment Trust, who attended the Docklands Regatta in London at the weekend

Miller linked with failed bank group

By JON ASHWORTH

MR ROBERT Miller, the missing financier who ran Dunsdale Securities, the investment company which collapsed last week, had been employed by London and County Securities, the banking group investigated by the Department of Trade and Industry after it collapsed in 1973.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Mr Miller, who disappeared 10 days ago owing investors at least £17 million. It emerged yesterday that he was licensed to trade as a director of Dunsdale from November 1977. At that time, the DTI was satisfied that Mr Miller was fit to carry out investment business.

Applicants for a licence to trade had to provide details of any other directorships. They also had to disclose details of convictions, insolvencies and any action taken against them by regulatory authorities in the previous 10 years.

A DTI spokesman said yesterday it would only grant a licence once it was satisfied that the applicant was "fit and proper" to trade. This involved checking with other regulators, such as the Stock Exchange, as well as the DTI's internal regulators and the police. Applicants were also interviewed.

The DTI said yesterday it

could not tell whether Mr Miller's employment by London and County had emerged during their initial screening. It said it was not in a position to comment further until more checks had been made.

The DTI was called in to investigate London and County after the secondary banking group's shares were suspended in 1973. The Bank of England and First National Finance Corporation, another secondary bank, were forced to step in with a rescue package after the group's £50 million collapse.

The DTI went on to accuse London and County's former chairman, Mr Gerald Caplan, and his associates, of defrauding the group of substantial amounts of money. Mr Caplan was arrested in the US in April 1978 and charged with fraud. Dunsdale investors have said they had assumed that Mr Miller was fit to trade as a director of Dunsdale from November 1977. At that time, the DTI was satisfied that Mr Miller was fit to carry out investment business.

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Export growth 'will stimulate UK economy'

By RODNEY LORD, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE economy will expand at a respectable pace in 1991 after this year's pause, and will grow faster still in the following years, according to Oxford Economic Forecasting. The gains will come mainly from rapid growth in exports and lower interest rates, which will help stimulate the economy.

Fimbra was not available for comment yesterday.

Mr David Pine, a senior partner of Alexander Tatham, the solicitor, who acted for investors in Barlow Clowes, said the latest turn of events showed the Financial Services Act was not doing its job.

Dunsdale investors have become more critical of Fimbra's role in the affair.

Mr Otto Hollander, who invested £50,000 with the company before its collapse, said he had assumed Dunsdale would be properly monitored.

"When I got my client agreement letter, the word 'Fimbra' was splashed about. It gave the impression of some official involvement."

A preliminary creditors' meeting will be held at the London offices of Stoy Hayward today. Mr Ray Hocking, of Stoy Hayward, is expected to tell many of the 200 creditors that there has been little sign of the £17 million said to have been invested.

The researchers say there is a serious risk that the upward bias in the RPI resulting from the way housing costs are treated could lead to a difficult wage round in the autumn.

Inflation will stay high for some time, possibly reaching 10 per cent this summer and ending the year at 9 per cent. Next year, it could average 6.7 per cent, falling to 4.8 per cent the year after.

The main difference between the Oxford forecast and most others is the detail it provides on various industries.

While manufacturing output as a whole could fall by 1 per cent this year, some sectors, such as chemicals,

Coal bid 'much too low' to win Globe

By NELL BENNETT

elied to Globe's leading institutional shareholders to explain the trust's new 23p valuation, which contrasts with British Coal's 19p-a-share offer.

The Office of Fair Trading is this week scheduled to decide whether to refer the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

"It's in the lap of the gods," Mr Hardy said. "We have never relied on it, but if we get a referral, it will give us extra time."

Globe's share price closed the week on Friday at 200p, which is well above the offer price. But Mr Hardy says he is still not sure of the outcome. "I don't think we can be confident yet. The bid has until July 9 to run. If the market collapses, things won't look so good."

Receiver cuts 1,000 jobs at Coloroll

By MICHAEL TATE
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

ONE thousand Coloroll workers have lost their jobs. Nigel Hamilton, of Ernest & Young, the receiver, this weekend shut down the failed group's furniture plant at Dudley, West Midlands, which employed 600, and cut back the workforce at the furnishings plant in Boston, Lincolnshire.

In a statement issued last night, Mr Hamilton said there were no plans for any further large redundancies among Coloroll's workforce, which totalled 8,500 before the weekend.

Coloroll, the furnishings empire built by Mr John Ashcroft, collapsed last Thursday with debts estimated at more than £300 million.

Shareholders have been told they are likely to receive nothing and even unsecured creditors, owed some £150 million, may not be paid out.

Mr Hamilton said that the redundancy notices had been issued following a detailed examination over the weekend of the group's situation.

The researchers say there is a serious risk that the upward bias in the RPI resulting from the way housing costs are treated could lead to a difficult wage round in the autumn.

A measure of inflation that did not exaggerate price rises when inflation was increasing would also bring Britain closer to the "proximate" rate compared with other European Community countries. Mr John Major, the Chancellor, has said this is needed before Britain can join the exchange rate mechanism.

Economic View, page 27

Bowes in breach of MMC pledge

By JEREMY ANDREWS

PITNEY Bowes, one of the two main suppliers of postal franking machines, has admitted that it failed to comply with an undertaking it gave to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission about providing price lists to its customers.

The company has told the Office of Fair Trading that it will dismiss any salesmen who disregard the undertaking in future.

After an investigation by the Monopolies Commission into the supply, maintenance and repair of franking machines in 1986, Pitney Bowes had agreed to tell all prospective customers the price at which machines could be purchased, the terms for other forms of supply, maintenance charges and the standard terms offered by PB Leasing.

However, he gave warning that a statutory order, which is enforceable in the courts, would be considered if monitoring revealed another breach.

The bankers focus on Eastern Europe

Bankers focus on Eastern Europe

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GERMAN monetary union in three weeks' time and the economic opening up of Eastern Europe in general are expected to figure large at today's annual meeting of the Bank for International Settlements in Basle, Switzerland.

The world central bankers attending the meeting have been closely reviewing the outlook for inflation and interest rates, especially in the wake of last year's dramatic political and economic changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The bankers, including Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, had informal discussions over the weekend ahead of the short formal session today. Herr Karl Otto Pohl, the president of West Germany's Bundesbank, last

J Fox, Bill Cosby, James Stewart and the film director Steven Spielberg, among the 50 or so stars who turned out for the premiere of *Die Hard*, put on a brave face.

Before the troubles, Mr Spielberg told the audience the Florida park was an example of the kind MCA wanted to create in Europe and Japan. He said MCA would decide within the next few months whether its European site would be in London

Threat of 'hot' money to EMS

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

HUGE short-term money flows, needed to steady the pound/mark exchange rate, "are a threat to the stability of the European Monetary System and the world monetary system," a new analysis of payments imbalances suggests.

The warning supports doubts raised by Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, president of the Bundesbank, over the apparent shift in British policy in favour of rapid entry into the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS.

Mr Christopher Johnson, chief economic adviser to Lloyds Bank, estimates that \$70 billion of short-term money had to be moved into sterling last year, or bought with the reserves, to balance international payments. At the same time, \$39 billion of short-term capital, or "hot" money, had to flow out of the mark to achieve balance in West Germany. The figures may not differ greatly this year.

Sharply lower interest rates are the main political lure for quick British entry into the EMS exchange rate mechanism. If huge sums of hot money need to flow between the mark and sterling, as the analysis implies, this hope could prove vain.

The estimates stem from Mr Johnson's calculations of what he calls the "basic balance of payments." This should include long-term capital flows such as direct investment in business and investment in long-term securities, as well as trade and other current payments.

This basic balance of payments, not just the trade surplus or deficit, is the chief influence on a currency in the foreign exchange markets, he argues.

For most leading currency countries, the balance of long-term capital flows is in the opposite direction to current account balances, easing strains on the foreign exchanges from trade surpluses and deficits. But Britain's trade deficit is reinforced by a big long-term capital drain, heightening the underlying weakness of the currency.

Prince of Wales supports staff volunteer schemes

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Prince of Wales is supporting a drive to persuade companies to set up schemes encouraging their employees to take on voluntary community work.

Prince Charles plans to speak on the issue at a conference sponsored by Whitbread, the brewing and leisure group, in London on Friday.

The move follows a survey on volunteering by MORI, the polling agent, for the Volunter Centre (UK), the information service for organizations using volunteers.

The survey showed that the proportion of individuals in Britain volunteering to help

community projects had fallen from 44 per cent of all adults in 1981 to 39 per cent last year.

Corporate support for employees to do voluntary work is frequently found in the US, but relatively few companies have taken it up in Britain.

Allied Dunbar and IBM have shown interest in such schemes, while Whitbread has

set up a trial project at Portsmouth after carrying out a survey among its staff.

In that survey, which was also conducted by MORI, 56 per cent of respondents said they would be more inclined to do voluntary work if they had company support. About half

the Whitbread workforce does some form of voluntary community work independently.

Company help does not necessarily mean giving staff time off. It may come in the form of allowing them to use office telephones, fax machines and other equipment.

Their work may be rewarded by recognition within the company.

About 60 groups, mostly blue-chip companies, will attend the conference. They will be told that sponsoring or encouraging community work will enhance their reputation locally.

Mr Mark Tabor, commun-

ity affairs director of Whitbread, said: "These schemes are a relatively low-cost exercise and will help employees to develop some of their business skills. It should also make them better employees."

The aim will be for staff, from executives to the shop floor, to take part in the schemes.

A UK Company Award for Employing Volunteering, to be sponsored by Whitbread, will be offered annually. It will be administered by Business in the Community, which promotes business involvement in the community and fosters small business development.

Market first for debt collector

TONY WHITE



Coming to market: Van Laar, left, and Goranson

THE business of debt collection is moving up in the world. Like other fields of commerce whose reputation used to be tarnished by seedy connotations — and this once included broking or banking — now is the time for debt collectors to move into the league of the blue-blooded (Wolfgang Münchau writes).

Today, one of Europe's largest firms of debt collectors, Intrum Justitia, a Dutch group, will be the first to have its shares listed on the London stock exchange. Altogether 12.5 million shares will be floated, about 14 per cent of the total, at a price of 81p, valuing the company at £64 million.

Debt collection is an underdeveloped business in Britain. The historic lack of interest has taken its toll, as evidenced by some appalling statistics. On average, it takes 78 days in Britain for bills to be paid, compared with the official 30-day payment term. The 48-day difference is the second-worst in Europe, after France, and compares with only 16 days achieved in Norway, Sweden and West Germany.

Intrum, whose managing director is Mr Bo Goranson, claims that the extra 48-day delay affects small companies in particular. Altogether, £60 billion is currently owed to small businesses, an estimated 10 per cent of their total turnover, and about half their profit margins.

The British problem is not attributable only to a lack of legal remedies, but a situation where delaying debt payment makes economic sense. Interest on outstanding debt can be charged only after litigation. In that case, the rate is 15 per cent, lower than commercial loan rates. The legal costs of debt collection are rarely fully recovered.

Even debt-collection agencies find it difficult to operate in this uncertain legal framework. The principal grounds for optimism are based on the European Commission, which has recently issued a discussion paper, usually the first stage in a long drawn-out process towards full Community legislation, to harmonize the terms of payments legislation. The Commission has come out in favour of tough guidelines, according to which the terms are strictly 45 days, with commercial rates of interest due automatically after this period.

RELIATIONS between the management of Saks Fifth Avenue and its new owner, Investcorp, are growing increasingly strained with speculation about a new chief executive and staff cuts.

Investcorp, the Arab-backed investment group,

bought Saks from BAT Industries last month for \$1.5 billion. It has circulated plans to cut staff at the New York retailer by up to 20 per cent and there is also talk that Mr Philip Miller, the chief executive of the Marshall Field's retailer, will become a co-

chairman of Saks before taking full control.

Mr Miller is head of the retailer, which is based in Chicago, also sold by BAT last month to Dayton Hudson Corporation, a big retail group in the Midwest. Mr Miller declined to comment.

Staff at Saks may be cut by 20%

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STRAIGHT ANSWERS TO COMPLICATED QUESTIONS

GILT-EDGED

Why UK yields fail to attract on world view

The outlook for the gilts

market is negative. A declining Budget sur-

plus, rising inflationary pres-

ures, imbalanced growth

and a deteriorating trade

deficit all point to eventual

downward pressure on sterl-

ing and an extremely large

surplus in gilt yields.

In view of the poor econo-

mic fundamentals, the rally

in gilts can be viewed only as

a short-term phenomenon.

This rally has been based on

an overreaction to specula-

tion about the possible entry

of sterling into the exchange

rate mechanism (ERM).

First, the strength of

domestic demand and the

rising trend of inflation

mean the pre-conditions for

ERM entry do not exist.

Secondly, sterling needs to

enter the ERM at a credible

and sustainable level. This

means a lower level than at

present and one which is

consistent with an improve-

ment in the trade deficit —

DM2.60 for example.

To neutralize the inflationary

impact and to prevent the

domestic economy from

overheating, fiscal policy

would then have to be

tightened, but this is unlikely

to be the case.

Thirdly, if sterling mem-

bership of the ERM occurs

too soon, falling interest

rates could reignite infla-

tory pressures and

boost imports.

Finally, sterling's mem-

bership of the ERM is un-

likely to lead to an im-

provement in the structural

problems facing Britain.

Once it is realized that

early ERM entry contains

risks, gilt yields should rise,

particularly for longer ma-

tturities. In fact, the poor

underlying structure of the

economy and the ad hoc na-

ture of the constraints will act

as a future limit to growth

once demand rises. The lack

of capacity is one contribu-

tor to the persistence of the

current account deficit.

The continued resilience

of domestic demand means

the cyclical component of

the deficit has not improved

while Britain's inability to

produce sufficient high qual-

ity goods implies that the

structural component of the

deficit will continue to de-

teriorate.

Present policy is not

tackling either compo-

nent adequately. The

cyclical component of the

deficit will only improve as

domestic demand slows.

To expect the deficit to decline

because of a surge in exports

means there is a need to

boost private sector savings

to reduce the current ac-

count deficit.

Although the current ac-

count deficit can be viewed

as a safety valve for infla-

tionary pressures, inflation

is still rising. The persistence

of inflationary pressures means there is little scope for

an early cut in interest rates.

Overall, yields on gilts are

not attractive from an inter-

national perspective. Indeed,

the real yield on 10-year gilts

lds fail to
world view

الجنة في لندن

The last set of trade figures showed an economy still growing too quickly to bring inflation back fully under control. This week's new evidence on the economy will help show if that view was correct.

Today brings the latest news from the high street in the form of retail sales figures for May. Sales in April showed a rebound after the sharp fall in March. So, on the pendulum principle, we might expect a slower figure again last month. But for those who can afford to look at the trend rather than a single month's figure, the important point is that growth in retail sales is a long way below the figures of the boom period.

NatWest Capital Markets' forecast is 1 per cent year-on-year for the three months ending May, compared with 1.7 per cent for the same period in 1989.

Last week's events in the retail trade were scarcely consistent with the picture of buoyant consumer demand which the trade figures seemed to present.

Two middle-ranking retail chains, Coloroll and Goldberg, were forced to call in the receiver

while another, Etam, reported doubtful prospects. The Confederation of British Industry's latest distributive trades survey raised the possibility of further slowdown given the high level of stocks and showed investment falling sharply.

Wednesday brings the first-quarter balance of payments figures. These will provide the first information for several months on the underlying trend in invisible earnings. Normally, the projected monthly figure for invisibles is derived by simply dividing the last quarterly figure by three. But the deficit recorded in the fourth quarter was distorted and the Central Statistical Office has been pitching its estimate a little higher.

We shall also get new information on inflation. Producer input prices, published today, may begin to reflect the pound's recent exchange rate mechanism mania, which has boosted the average exchange

rate in May by 2 per cent. Output prices, however, have continued to rise recently in spite of the generally subdued trend in input prices, reflecting the growing pressure from wage costs.

The year-on-year inflation in output prices has risen nearly a point since January, from 5.2 per cent to 6.1 per cent in April, and could rise again in May.

April's big jump in retail price inflation, when the effect of the poll tax and excise duty increases in the Budget took the rate up to 9.4 per cent, will not be repeated in May. But the May figure, due on Friday, could see a further small increase as the remaining effect of the excise duty increase comes through. UBS Phillips & Drew is forecasting an increase to

9.7 per cent, and perhaps slightly higher in the months to come before the peak in late summer at probably just less than 10 per cent.

The main uncertainty, as ever, is pay. The labour market has been tightening for some months, with smaller falls in unemployment giving way in April to a rise for the first time in nearly four years. Combined with the recent firmness in sterling, which should act as a caution to employers tempted to concede large pay claims, leaner times may gradually reduce the rate of increase in settlements.

Alternatively, there is the rate of inflation, which will tend to boost settlements as employees try to maintain their real

earnings. This benchmark effect is one reason why the measurement of inflation is so important and why there is such argument about it. It is clear that the underlying rate of inflation has risen, is continuing to rise and must be induced to fall. But it is equally clear, as Mr John Major, the Chancellor, keeps saying, that the retail price index exaggerates the rate of inflation when it is rising and understates it when it is falling. The "headline" rate is more misleading than many a story which finds its way to the Press Council.

Mr Bill Robinson and Mr Stephen McKay of the Institute for Fiscal Studies have constructed a new inflation index which reflects underlying inflationary pressures better.

The new index excludes the poll tax on the grounds that it is a direct tax, like income tax, rather than part of the price of housing services and includes the price of housing services by means of a

proxy for market rents. To ensure the comparison of like-with-like, rates are excluded from the calculation of the index for earlier years.

Rents are the measure used in the housing component of price indexes in practically all other countries, but the unsubsidized rented sector is so small in Britain that it is difficult to use as a basis here. The IFS has, therefore, tried to construct rental levels by calculating the return needed on investment in housing (cost of borrowing less capital appreciation plus a depreciation charge).

On this basis, the current rate of inflation is not 9.4 per cent, but 6.4 per cent; a very different signal to wage bargainers.

Of equal importance, the new index would have showed inflation about 1 per cent higher than the retail price index in the first half of 1988. This might have given stronger warning signals at a time when policy was too loose. The consequences of the current method of measuring inflation are too important to be allowed to continue unchallenged.

TEMPUS

Racal expected to deliver soothing tone on profits

IT HAS been a bumpy ride for cellular radio fans who backed the Racal Telecom flotation.

Despite a hesitant market reception when the shares were offered at 170p in mid-1988, they took off at the end of that year. By mid-1989, they became the darling of US cellular followers and topped 500p. But they collapsed when Lord Young, then trade secretary, launched a plan for licensing Personal Communication Networks, a new generation of cellphones with some advantages and some drawbacks over the original variety. Racal Telecom shares dropped to 308p in the backwash.

Full-year figures this week for Racal Telecom and its parent, Racal Electronics, should soothe worries about the continuing cellphone boom and validate the bounce to 369p in Racal Telecom shares.

Analysts say Racal Telecom's 1988/89 pre-tax total is likely to almost double to £160 million. They also expect a confident statement from Sir Ernest Harrison, the chairman, to underpin current-year expectations of £245 million.

Most of the market's attention is likely to focus on Racal Electronics, which holds 80 per cent of Racal Telecom stock and where the "old Racal" activities are in the 214p share price at a negative value. These activities have been hit by higher-than-expected reorganization costs in its data communications division and start-up costs in the contract to establish a government telecommunications service, which should break through to profits in 1982/83.

This year, the depressed Racal Electronics looks like the Racal company to watch. Improvement in datacommunications and growth in the Chubb security operations and Vodafone trade should lift pre-tax profits by 50 per cent from the £200 million or so expected for last year.



Sir Ernest Harrison: confident statement expected

USH

MEGGITT'S decision to walk away from its £120 million bid for United Scientific Holdings in November has been proved right by events - at least in commercial terms. Although Sir Ron Brierley's IEP Securities has built up a 29 per cent stake, both the ordinary and convertible preference shares have fallen so much that USH's combined market capitalization is now less than £50 million.

USH returned to the black in the first half with modest pre-tax profits of £550,000, but the trading news is still so grim that Mr Nick Prest, the new chief executive, has taken to analysing the company's break-up value.

The sale of OEC, the US

electro-optics subsidiary, will bring in \$45 million in all, and wipe out most of USH's borrowings. That will leave its two principal British businesses, valued at only 225 million, given that the rest of USH's market capitalization is covered by the 65 per cent holding in Avimo Singapore, the locally-quoted gunsight manufacturer.

Of the two UK businesses, Alvis, has the greater immediate potential. It has a £100 million three-year order book for light tanks, and reasonable prospects up until 1995.

Avimo Taunton, which also makes gunsights, lost £1 million in the first half and is in the throes of a reorganization that will last until the middle of next year. However, £17 million has already been pro-

vided against this subsidiary. Provided that the OEC sale is not blocked again by the US authorities, the shares will begin to look cheap on asset grounds. At 61p, up from their 10-year low of 58p, the ordinary shares yield 5.5 per cent.

The latest fad is Eastern Europe.

INVESTMENT flows are susceptible to fads and fashions. Be it Latin American debt or junk bonds, undue enthusiasm is rarely rewarded.

The West Germans, rather untypically, were the first to lose their heads over reunification. From the day the Berlin Wall came down until April, the German stock market rose by about 33 per cent. It has since fallen 6.3 per cent in anticipation that the party may soon be over.

The underlying economics put the undue optimism into perspective. East Germany's output represents only about 10 per cent of West Germany's national product. There is lingering uncertainty over the inflationary impact of German monetary union and the vexed question of East Germany's commercial undertakings to the Soviet Union.

Market prices reflect expectations of future dividend flows, and those are most unlikely to be affected by immediate developments in central and Eastern Europe.

There is the inevitable argument of the longer term. But one must bear in mind that while West German industry has a long-term outlook, German market mechanisms do not differ from those elsewhere.

Investors should proceed with a degree of caution and take into account higher risk/reward preferences. As far as Germany goes, there is more certainty on the cost of monetary union today than there is of the peace and freedom dividends tomorrow.

Electronics

Callaway, aged 38, made a name for himself in the City in the early 1980s as the secretary of the Unlisted Securities Market Committee, the body responsible for establishing the USM 10 years ago. He recalls: "I was employed in the Stock Exchange quotations department at the time. I switched to corporate finance by joining Capel-Cure Myers, now part of ANZ, five years ago." Callaway is due to join Coopers' burgeoning corporate finance department in July. "Accountants have been moving more towards corporate finance for some time. We do not provide capital and we are not stockbrokers, but we do want to provide more corporate finance advice," said Callaway's future boss, Coopers' partner Tony Bartlett.

Levitt's new light

ROGER Levitt, the flamboyant chairman of The Levitt Group, a large independent financial services specialist, is clearly attracted by the celebrity life-style. With pint-sized pop star Adam Faith already on his payroll, Levitt, an Arsenal supporter, has persuaded record producer David Courtney to join his financial team. Courtney, aged 40, says he is looking forward to dabbling in the world of money. There are murmurs that many big names badly need financial advice. Meanwhile, Levitt, also aged 40, and known for his exotic bow ties, has developed a superstar

life-style all of his own. His passion for Dom Perignon Davidoff cigars, hand-made and flown in from Cuba, sets him back almost £900 a month. He admits to getting through two boxes every three weeks, with each box retailing at £333 in Davidoff's exclusive Jermyn Street showroom. But anxious to show that his habit is not without some regard to its cost, he said: "It is one of the few cigars you can relish during the day without leaving a sour taste in your mouth."

Merge and Cee

ROGER Elliott, the chairman of Willis Faber, had a double merger to celebrate at the weekend. He has just unveiled details of his company's £1.1 billion union with Corrion & Black, of the United States, to create the fourth largest insurance broker in the world.

To add to his joy, the engagement was finally announced last week, in *The Times*, between Sebastian Coe, the Olympic champion athlete and aspiring politician, and Nicola McIlroy, this year's Badminton horse trials winner. McIlroy, previously married to John McIlroy, the horsebreeder, is, it so happens, Elliott's daughter.

NOT for the shy... The Danish word for condom is, I hear, svangerskabsforegåendemidde.

Counting on Chris

CHRIS Callaway is about to become living proof that the big accountancy firms are determined not to let the merchant banks have it all their own way. A respected corporate financier at ANZ merchant bank, he is about to take up a similar post with Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte.

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Threat over Belgian arms firms

From MICHAEL BINYON
IN BRUSSELS

BELGIUM'S huge arms industry, hit by falling sales as Cold War tensions ease, has been hauled back from the brink of bankruptcy by rescue plans which still leave the threat of crisis hanging over the biggest manufacturers.

The Fabrique Nationale Herstal, makers of the Browning rifle, has been temporarily saved by an emergency injection of BFr1.5 billion (£26.3 million) from its parent company, Société Générale de Belgique. But the aid will keep FN functioning only for three months until a fresh rescue plan can be mounted.

The respite came as the financial crisis affecting another arms manufacturer, Poudrières Réunies de Belgique, took a surprise turn. As PRB seemed on the brink of liquidation, a joint memorandum of intent to buy the firm was submitted by France's Groupe Industriel de l'Armement Terrestre and Société Nationale de Poudres et Des Explosifs.

The FN crisis came as the head at an extraordinary shareholders' meeting on Thursday after the company reported a loss of BFr2.1 billion for last year despite an earlier rescue package of BFr5.8 billion by the Société Générale.

FOUR French importers of Japanese vehicles are suing the European Commission because it has failed to break up a cosy grouping of Japanese agents that are allegedly carving up France's quota for Japanese cars among themselves.

It is an unusual twist to the European Community's dilemma over how to limit Japanese car imports after

Four French importers of Japanese vehicles are suing the European Commission because it has failed to break up a cosy grouping of Japanese agents that are allegedly carving up France's quota for Japanese cars among themselves.

The French importers have appealed to the European Court of Justice for £216 million in damages. Their complaint is that representatives of Toyota, Mazda, Honda, Mitsubishi and Nissan have unfairly shared out the 3 per cent of the French market allotted to Japanese car imports.

The 3 per cent quota causes them serious injury, the importers believe.

The French government fears a massive influx of Japanese cars when national quotas are abandoned, and has threatened to block British-built Nissans to France in the past.

The European Commission is still holding talks with Japan over a transitional regime for imports to soften the blow for the European car industry.

• CREDITORS who invest abroad may receive greater

BRUSSELS NOTEBOOK

Twist in car tales



Karel van Miert: confident

protection from bankruptcy under a new international bankruptcy convention, opened for signature between the 23 countries of the Council of Europe last week.

The convention aims to keep those with money placed abroad better informed and remove some of the hurdles that can slow down their claims for compensation.

If a bankrupt firm has assets spread around Europe, the convention will also give the liquidator certain powers to manage and dispose of those assets directly in each country, in compliance with the domestic laws concerned.

• BRUSSELS is drumming up support for a second round

of air transport measures designed to open the door a little wider to free competition on the European market.

Mr Karel van Miert, the EC's Transport Commissioner, is confident that ministers will endorse the package on June 18 and 19.

It will remove a country's right to veto cut-price international airfares between two European cities after 1992, and will relax the conditions attached to apex, pax and superpax tariffs in the meantime.

In addition, it will phase out rules whereby airlines share out seats on a particular route, and will increase the right of carriers to pick up and drop off passengers at intermediate stops.

• DUTCH attempts to cut the country's massive pig mountain by paying £80 million towards the installation of new processing plants have incurred the wrath of the Commission.

Brussels smelled rat when it noticed that the Netherlands farm ministry was footloose more than a third of the bill, in potential violation of the EC's state aid rules.

The European Commission maintains that the polluter — the farmer, not the pig — should pay more.

Peter Guilford

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Capel card deals a win

FIVE City stockbrokers who stayed conscientiously with their dealing screens on Derby Day ended up decidedly better off than those colleagues who braved the wind and rain on Epsom Downs. Forming themselves into a syndicate, the dealers all employed by James Capel, bought a number of £2 tickets in the annual Stock Exchange Derby Day Draw. And they won first prize: £19,000 in cash. For one of the five lucky dealers, Keith Hutchins, history had repeated itself. In 1982, as part of a similar consortium at Wood Mackenzie, he then worked, he had a share in the £15,000 first prize of that year's draw. "This is something we do every year," he said nonchalantly. "We've been too busy to celebrate, we might have a drink next week. But we're pub men, not champagne drinkers." His fellow winners were Terry Fearey, also ex-Wood Mac, Colin Thompson, Frank Buchan and David Gankseer. In total, £49,200 was raised from the sale of draw tickets to Stock Exchange members, and £4,920 was given to charity. The balance was distributed among the first seven winners, in amounts decreasing from £19,000 to £750. "On top of that, everyone who actually drew a horse outside the top seven, received £350," said

IN A Hampshire lay-by, a strawberry seller's sign reads: "We all sleep in our own beds last night."

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ROGER Elliott, the chairman of Willis Faber



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REPORTING THIS WEEK

Scholey steels himself for downturn

TODAY

SIR Robert Scholey, chairman of British Steel, is expected to report a sharp downturn in second-half profits, reflecting rising costs and easing demand for steel products in Britain following a period of destocking compared with the high levels of the previous 18 months.

But final pre-tax profits are expected to forge ahead from £593 million to about £720 million, according to Mr Andy Chambers at NatWest Research. There will be a pension credit in the region of £25 million to £30 million, but this will be offset by provisions for the Ravenscraig hot-strip mill closure costs. Market forecasts range from £690 million to £750 million.

Mrs Lakis Athanasiou at UBS Phillips & Drew expects final pre-tax profits of between £138 million and £140 million on a pro forma basis, comfortably exceeding its forecast of £136 million. Earnings are expected to be fairly flat in the following year, after which rapid growth is expected.

Emap, the magazine and newspaper publisher whose titles include the popular teen-

age publications *Smash Hits* and *Just Seventeen*, is expected to announce a reasonable set of figures, given its concentration in Britain and above-average dependence on advertising.

Full-year pre-tax profits are expected to climb from £33.6 million to £38 million, according to James Capel, the broker.

Analysts expect Alexon Group, the quality womenswear manufacturer and retailer, to buck the trend with an advance in final pre-tax profits from £15 million to between £19 million and £21 million.

Amersham International, the healthcare and medical research group, is expected to turn in final pre-tax profits of £22.2 million, against £21.4 million last time, according to Mr Nigel Barnes at Hoare Govett.

Market forecasts range from £20 million to £23 million.

Intertek Control Techniques, Midland Radio, Ecolab, Acol, Alexon Group, American International, Anglian Water, British Steel, Doncasters, Tyson, Eiga Group, Emas, Fawcett & Gas, Lyons Holdings, New London, Norman's Group, Property Partnerships, Tinsley Robot, Waverley Mining Finance.

USM REVIEW

Smaller firms facing investors' reluctance to trade their shares

IF YOU had spent the last five or even 10 years building up a business, your decision to seek a stock market quotation would probably seem, at the time, one of the most important you had so far had to take.

If you were new to the public arena it would be as exciting as it was alien. You would find yourself meeting stockbrokers, merchant bankers and corporate lawyers.

It would also be expensive. These days it costs, on average, £288,000 for a listing on the Unlisted Securities Market, equivalent to 10.8 per cent of the sum being raised.

But, never mind, these City professionals presumably know what they are talking about. And it will give you access to a market, to trade shares and to issue paper for acquisitions.

However, the reality could be very different. Especially if you are an Unlisted Securities Market stock, or even one of the smaller companies quoted on the main market.

If market conditions remain as they are, you are more likely to find that institutional investors have little or no interest in holding or trading in your shares, and market-makers may even be reluctant to make any sort of market in your stock.

"It is not a satisfactory situation," says Mr Brian Winterflood, chairman of Winterflood Securities, the specialist USM and smaller companies market-maker. He has had repeated meetings with the Stock Exchange to try to find a solution.

The Elwes Report did not pay enough attention to companies at the bottom end of the market, it concentrated on bigger stocks.

Five market-makers in the junior stocks have packed up in the last few weeks — the last thing I want is for us to be the last market-maker left."

Kitcat & Atkin closed last week and Stock Beech has also closed down its market-making arm. Such retrenchment means that Winterflood Securities is now the sole market-maker in 100 stocks.

The plight faced by some smaller companies was highlighted last month when Star Computers, a Watford-based software and computer equipment services company, found itself without a market-maker for two days.

Star Computers, which is capitalized at £3 million, originally floated on the USM in 1981, graduating to a full listing a year later. But it was left high and dry



Winterflood: "We don't want to be the only market-maker left"

when the Midlands-based market-maker Fish Conway Fenton closed its market-making operation.

Mr David Blechner, joint chairman of Star, said: "We were left without a market-maker for a couple of days, but we have a good stockbroker, Henderson Crosthwaite, and a merchant bank, Singer & Friedlander, and they went into action and found us a replacement in the form of Phillips & Drew. If they hadn't been able to do that, we would have had to deal with it on a matched bargain basis through our company secretary, which is absurd. I'm quite sure that there are dozens of other companies in similar positions."

Reflecting on the City's deteriorating attitude towards smaller companies, Mr Blechner said: "We have had two knocks since the October crash. One is the flight from beta and gamma stocks to blue chips, which, in a way is understandable. But there is simply no real market in gamma shares and I do not know who to direct my criticisms to."

It's not fair on investors. They deserve a proper market so that they can buy and sell.

"The other knock has been a more individual one. We had poor results (losses of £649,000 in the six months to end-December 1989) last year, which we are now climbing out of, but that did not help sentiment either."

Carol Leonard

European companies 'poaching graduates'

EUROPEAN companies are moving into the British jobs market to recruit the cream of graduates, says a report out today.

The Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services said companies had up to five years before they faced real competition from Europe because dual science and language courses had only recently caught on in British universities.

Lafarge Copee wants up to

15 engineering and business graduates. Unilog is trying to recruit 30 scientists and the patent office 70, according to the report in *Personnel Today*.

The Federal Reserve has enjoyed a spectacular success with its "new look" policy adopted on May 15. The policy included a bold announcement by means of market actions on May 17 and May 18 — that signalled the central bank would not ease its policy, despite pressure from the Bush Administration, both public and private.

At the same time, the Federal Reserve dumped the policy of currency intervention, thus flouting the authority of the US Treasury in foreign exchange policy.

Both policy lines combined to produce a revival of confidence in the financial markets, in the United States and worldwide.

Since the beginning of May, the Dow Jones industrial average has risen 260 points. The long bond price has risen 7 per cent and the dollar has remained relatively unchanged on the futures contract for the US dollar index.

The Commodity Research Bureau Index of commodities futures prices has also fallen 9 points to 239, gold has fallen \$14, crude oil has fallen \$2 and copper has fallen 8 cents to \$1.14.

The US Treasury yield curve has materially flattened. The spread between the yield on a 90-day Treasury bill and the 30-year long bond has fallen from 85 basis points on May 1 to 50 basis points on Tuesday.

Each of the goals the Fed has thus been approached much more closely,



British Steel

Second-half downturn likely after destocking: Sir Robert Scholey, BS chairman

Economic statistics: Retail Sales (May — provisional), producer price index numbers (May — provisional).

TOMORROW

Mr Julian Hardwick at Barclays de Zoete Wedd expects pre-tax profit at Hazlewood Foods, the food manufacturing group, to rise from £46.5 million to £58 million for the full year, with forecasts between £56 million and £60 million.

Fresh foods may have suf-

fered from the various health scares, but the frozen foods and snack businesses should have done well.

Interims: Davenport Vernon JA, Dillons, Birnie Industries, BSS Group, Burndene Investments, Carr's Milling Industries, Claythorn, A Cohen & Co, Drummond Group, Faupel Trading Group, F&C Smaller Companies, Harrison Industries, Hirst, Johnson Telcom, Thompson Electronics, Unilever, Osborne & Little, PCT Group, Saalfield, Vesper Thorneycroft Holdings.

Economic statistics: International

Banking statistics (first quarter) is at Racal Electronics to advance from £177.9 million to £205 million, largely due to the expansion of the Vodafone cellular telephone network. Forecasts range from £200 to £207 million.

Final pre-tax profits at Racal Telecoms are expected to surge from £84.5 million to £161 million, according to BZW. The company started the year with 300,000 subscribers and will probably end up with more than 500,000.

Analysts believe prospects remain good, although there is some slowdown in new subscribers.

Final pre-tax profits at Capex, the building products and industrial contracting group 68.8 per cent owned by Charter Consolidated, are expected to climb from £13.6 million to £17 million, according to Paul McDonnell at Williams & Broé.

Interims: Chemring Group, Craig & Rose, Craton Lodge & Knight, London Scottish Bank, Lookers, Finical Cable and Wireless, CAPE, European Colour, CE Heath, Learmonth & Burchett Management Systems, Mansfield Brewery, M&G Financial Trust, Metal Electronics, Racal Telephone, Rapier Enterprises, Salverson (Christian), Shaw (Arthur) & Co, Waddington (John).

Economic statistics: UK Defence of payments (first quarter).

WEDNESDAY

Cable and Wireless, Lord

Sharp's international telecommunications group, is expected to show final pre-tax profits of £512 million (£420 million), according to Mr Tim Hirst at Smith New Court.

Market forecasts range from £510 million to £525 million.

Mr Mark Lambert at County NatWest WoodMac expects full-year pre-tax prof-

its at Racal Electronics to advance from £177.9 million to £205 million, largely due to the expansion of the Vodafone cellular telephone network. Forecasts range from £200 to £207 million.

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Economic statistics: UK Defence of payments (first quarter).

THURSDAY

Mr Alan Woltz, the chairman

of the London International Group is expected to report improved full-year profits, up from £33.7 million to £36.5 million, according to Hoare Govett.

Market forecasts range from £35 million to £37 million. Johnson Matthey is likely to announce final pre-tax profits of £50 million (£64 million), according to Mr Robert Sosson at County NatWest.

Interims: Flexello Castors & Wheels, Lovell (VJ) Holdings, VPI Group, Watson & Phillips.

Finals: Carter Allen Holdings, Cropwell Bishop, Derby Group, FID, Fitter, Hemsley, Johnson Matthey, London International Group, Northumbrian Fine Foods, Rothschild (J) Holdings, Scapa Group, Staveley Industries.

Economic statistics: Labour market statistics — unemployment and vacancies (May—provisional), average earnings indices (April—provisional), employment, wage rates, productivity and unit wage costs, industrial disputes.

FRIDAY

Interims: Eldridge, Pope & Co, Strata Investments.

Finals: British Rail (AF) & Co, Hanover.

Economic statistics: Useable steel production (May), retail sales index (May).

Philip Pangalos

With plans pointing to gilt

issues between £5 billion and £10 billion in the mid-1990s he sees Labour at least dou-

bling that to nearly £20 billion.

Labour 'will face limits' on spending

By COLIN NARBROUGH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

PUBLIC spending would rise by up to £50 billion from the present £200 billion if a Labour government fully implemented the conclusions contained in its policy review, according to estimates by Mr Simon Briscoe, an economist at Midland Montagu.

But, he concludes, this would imply either much higher taxes than Labour has suggested or unprecedented borrowing.

Therefore, he expects that a Labour government in the first year are seen coming from increases in child benefit, pensions, housing, education and training and public-sector pay awards.

Mr Briscoe expects that the main pressures in the first year are seen coming from increases in child benefit, pensions, housing, education and training and public-sector pay awards.

With plans pointing to gilt issues between £5 billion and £10 billion in the mid-1990s he sees Labour at least doubling that to nearly £20 billion.

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With plans pointing to gilt

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page daily. Add them up to give you your overall portfolio figure. If it matches the daily dividend figure, it is a sign of the daily prize money stated. If not, why follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end June 22. Contango day June 25. Settlement day July 2.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

No.	Company	Group	Gala or Date
1	McCarthy & S	Building, Roads	
2	TI (aa)	Industrials S-Z	
3	Sema Gp	Electricals	
4	Davy	Industrials A-D	
5	Turiff	Building, Roads	
6	GKN (aa)	Industrials E-K	
7	Waterville	Property	
8	Aerospace Eng	Industrials A-D	
9	ASW	Industrials A-D	
10	Sidney	Industrials S-Z	
11	Buckingham Ind	Leisure	
12	GulfGold	Building, Roads	
13	GroveWood Sec	Industrials E-K	
14	Tipkook	Transport	
15	Diploma	Industrials A-D	
16	Marks Spencer (m)	Department Stores	
17	THORN SMT (aa)	Electricals	
18	Banks (Sidney C)	Foods	
19	Asics	Electricals	
20	Costain	Building, Roads	
21	Clestron	Industrials E-K	
22	Hartstone	Drapers, Stores	
23	Bullough	Industrials A-D	
24	Bellway	Building, Roads	
25	Slough Estates (aa)	Property	
26	Christie	Property	
27	Baird (West)	Industrials A-D	
28	Hickson	Chemicals, Plas.	
29	ACT Group	Electricals	
30	Lca	Motors, Aircraft	
31	Ultimex (aa)	Oil/Gas	
32	Asbi & Lucy	Industrials A-D	
33	Telecoms	Electronics	
34	Hawes	Industrials E-K	
35	Tilbury Group	Building, Roads	
36	Brent Chees	Chemicals, Plas.	
37	Adwest	Industrials A-D	
38	Ericsson	Electricals	
39	Macro 4	Electricals	
40	Hallcrest (James)	Chemicals, Plas.	
41	Vickers	Industrials S-Z	
42	BPP	Newspapers, Publ.	
43	Greenall Wh	Breweries	
44	Card Gp	Chemicals, Plas.	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT Weekly Total

Two people share the Portfolio Platinum weekly prize. Miss Deborah Jackson, of Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, and Norma Fisher, of Bristol, each receive £2,000.

BRITISH FUNDS					
Stock outstanding	Price	Change	Int.	Gross	Div.
2 Stock	last	of day	only	and	per cent

SHORTS (Under Five Years)					
1997 Trees 1/2% 1995	1.25	-	25		
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EXECUTIVE CARS

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Budget fails to halt company car drivers

After the 1989 sales boom, the market survived tax penalties, Kevin Eason writes. But new problems are looming

The executive car is a barometer indicating the state of British business—and ahead lie stormy times. High interest rates are forcing companies to tighten their operations and the most obvious outward sign of their thrift is in the dramatic slowing of the car market.

Forecasters are busy revising downwards their estimates for the year's sales as cautious optimism starts to give way to signs of panic. Discount deals, in which £1,000 is slashed from sticker prices, and cheap credit are among the activities started by dealers.

Within the increasingly frantic total market, down by almost 10 per cent this year, the makers of executive cars are suffering the most.

Rover had to lay off 1,500 workers at the Cowley plant, which makes the Rover 800 series, because there were too many cars for the limited number of upmarket buyers. January to April sales were 8,518, down from 12,163 at the corresponding time in 1989.

Other makers are faring little better. Among the top 10 executive cars in the first four months of this year, only three—BMW 3-series, Vauxhall Carlton and Saab 9000, show marginal increases over last year.

Ford, the market leader, has held on. Granada sales dipped only slightly, but that is still considered disappointing at a time when the car has been completely revamped—and there is no indication of the cost at which Ford has bought its market share.

The fleet industry is rife with accusations that leading manufacturers are out to maintain their market shares with huge inducements, from discount deals to free cars on top of big orders.

Even Jaguar, the managing director's favourite car—nine out of 10 Jaguar sales are to companies—had to watch helplessly as its five-month performance has gone from last year's 6,906 to 5,367 for the period to this May.

If that was not bad enough, the competition will get even tougher later in the year as new models come on to a market chasing a dwindling band of customers.

This week, Toyota's Lexus, the first true Japanese "big" car, will be seeking sales among the Jaguar, Mercedes and BMW set. Mitsubishi also wants to sell its new luxury saloon—in Japan, the Diamante—here next year, adding to the competition.

The pressure from the East is added to new European models, especially from Citroën, with its XM, and Peugeot's 605, due in the showrooms soon.

They will all be searching for sales, but almost certainly at the expense of models already on the market. New customers are unlikely to enter the market.

Performance this year is in dramatic contrast to 1989, which was a good year for makers of big, luxury models. The year marked the end of a run of about five years when buoyant profits were encouraging companies to offer more and more cars to their managers.

Acceptance of the company car as a salary "perk" started during the wage freeze of the late 1970s. Companies could not offer cash to their best people, but a car did not count. Now, smart managers, aware that their salaries might stretch to a Sierra if they were forced to buy their own car, realize they can enjoy the luxury of a Rover or a Granada if the company is picking up the bill.

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of company cars being offered, especially at the level of middle manager. In the five years from 1985, the percentage of senior managers with company cars jumped from 69.9 per cent to 78.5. However, among middle managers, the percentage virtually doubled from 19.5 to 35.9.

Nothing damped demand, not even government attempts to hit the "perk" car hard through personal taxation. In truth, the March Budget's 20 per cent tax increase on company car drivers has had little effect, because it is still cheaper to drive a car that someone else has to finance.

A survey by the Reward pay and conditions group showed that an employee with a company-owned Granada 2.0 GLi would need to cover at least 22,000 miles a year before it would be worth buying his or her own car and claiming mileage allowances.

An employee with a Rover Sterling would need to cover about 37,000 miles.

That shows that buying patterns among executive car users, who are mostly company car drivers, are unlikely to be changed unless John Major, the Chancellor of the

Exchequer, turns the screw much tighter. Cars have grown bigger, faster and more luxurious in Britain during the "fat" years of the late 1980s.

But this may change for good—and not just for financial reasons. The environment lobby may force a once-and-for-all change in the way we view our driving, with a

substantial move towards smaller, more fuel-efficient cars, and perhaps to new engine types, particularly diesel in the short term. Neither the Government nor the European Commission has shown its hand yet, but it seems inevitable that the tax on fuel will be increased to encourage a decrease in petrol consumption as part of the measures to attack the problem of growing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

There may also be additional taxes on fuel-inefficient models to encourage higher prices for the biggest cars. The message will be clear: those who want to use the most fuel to cause the most pollution will have to pay dearly for it. Companies that finance the most polluting cars will have to explain why to their shareholders.

Manufacturers certainly will not have available the technological answers in the next five years to allow the growth of big, fuel-burning cars to go unchecked by the Government.

The immediate problems facing both car maker and executive car buyer may be purely financial.

At the end of the decade, there will be a complex choice of how to cope with taxation and the environment.

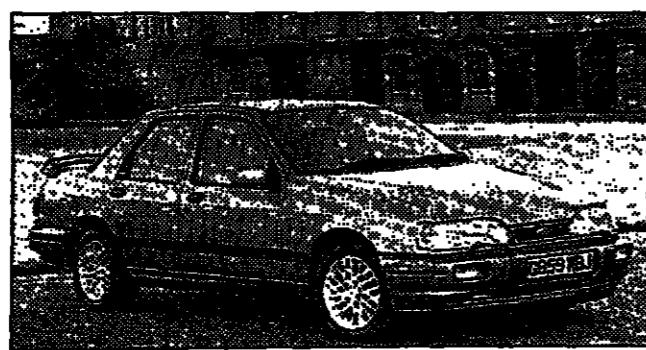


Attacking the market: the competition in Britain warms up this week when the Toyota company introduces its Lexus, Japan's first "big" car

"It is a tribute to the sheer versatility of Subaru's new Legacy that we have rated it so highly in the face of some tough and perhaps better-established competition. But in our view the Legacy in its estate car form is simply the best contender in its class, and is difficult to fault."

Best Estate Car.

'What Car?' Cars of the Year Awards 1990



Fast lane: Ford's contender is the Sierra Cosworth

Rocky road for contract hirers

WHEN John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, made no change to the so-called luxury-car ceiling for mainstream tax relief in the last Budget, the car leasing and hire industry faced yet another year in what it considers an unwelcome time warp.

Enduring that is one of the industry's problems as the tougher economic climate forces businesses to look more sharply at their costs in keeping an executive car fleet operating (Derek Harris writes).

In 1979, about £8,000 really did buy a luxury car, which is why the Treasury used that as a benchmark.

Anybody who bought a car costing more than that was restricted in the amount of tax relief that could be claimed on running a company car. Applying the intervening inflation factor and that benchmark should read £20,000 today, says Norman Donkin, chairman of the Equipment Leasing Association's vehicle leasing committee. Mr Donkin is the managing director of Lease Plan, one of the leading operators in the industry.

The industry wanted the Chancellor to raise the limit, if only as a gesture to equity. The impost applies only to cars acquired on finance lease or contract hire. Those buying a car outright or through hire purchase do not have the same problem.

The situation has helped fuel the growth of new-style contract purchase deals. Mr Donkin believes:

On another tax front, speculation has been increasing that those with company cars might scrap them after the Chancellor's 20 per cent tax increase for private use of the cars. The supposition was that drivers might buy their own cars and claim mileage

allowances. Mr Donkin says: "I do not think there is any hard evidence of this. Most company men and especially executives still regard the company car as a plus."

It looks as if such a switch would make sense only for those completing high business mileages and little private mileage. Running a car of more than two litres also brings taxation disadvantages.

The difference between a 1,999cc vehicle and one over the 2,000cc rating can in typical tax terms mean another £37 a year for the person running the higher-capacity vehicle.

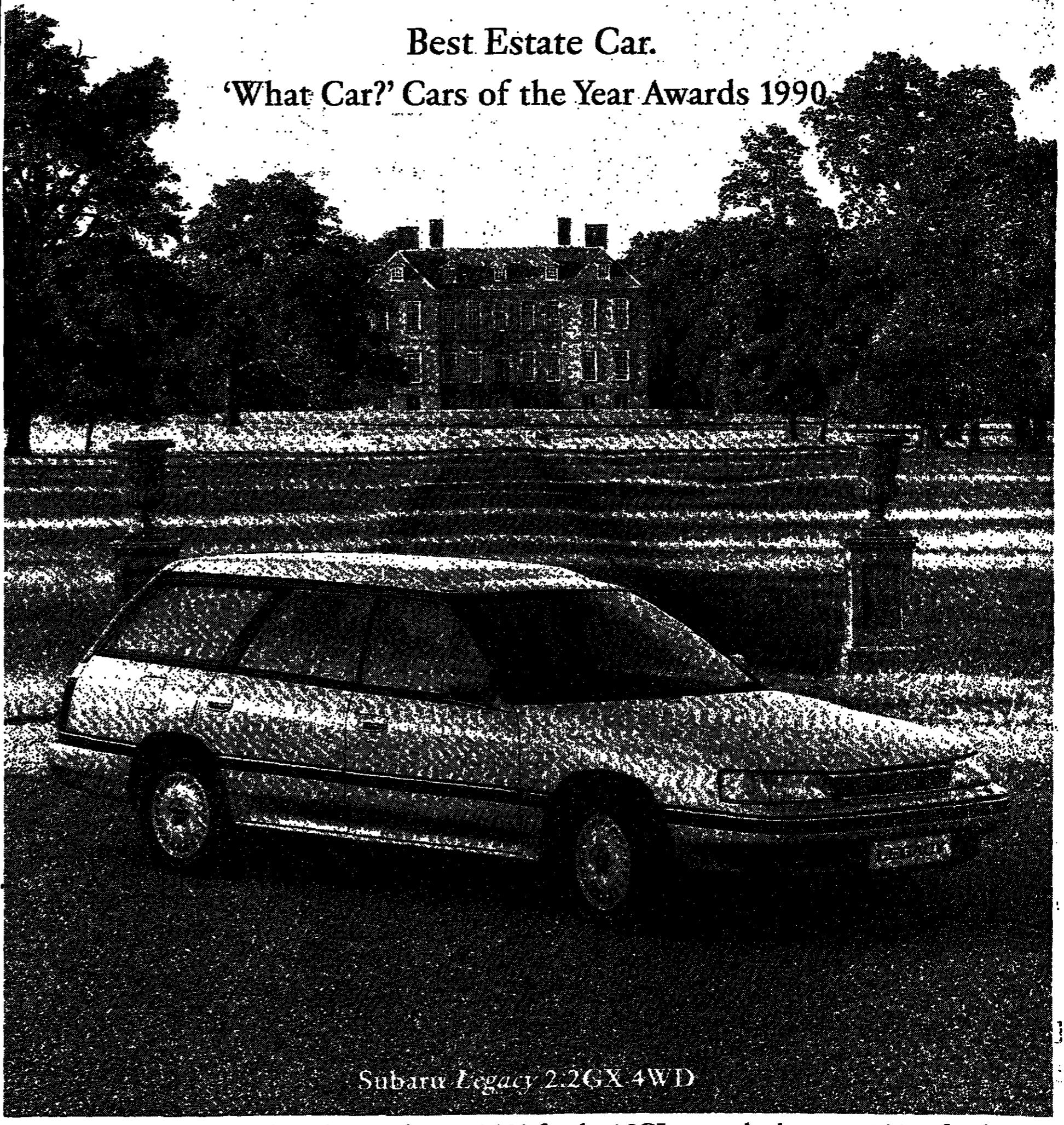
One result is that manufacturers have responded and are providing cars that are a whisker under two litres and have as many high-specification extras as most executives are seeking. Contract hire is likely to continue to grow if only because of the problems that have arisen over the residual values of cars at the end of their useful company life, according to Tony Hoskins, marketing director of Lex Vehicle Leasing, part of the Lex group.

The second-hand values of the most popular company cars, such as the Rover 820 SI and the Ford Sierra 1.6 GL, have dropped 14 per cent and 9 per cent respectively during the past six months. The values of other fleet models have fallen by a similar percentage.

Under any financing arrangement where the user company carries the responsibility financially for a final disposal, this sort of arithmetic must be proving a shock. Lex believes the decline has been so great that some contract hire companies have been caught out and could face severe financial difficulties.



Norman Donkin: "a plus"



Subaru Legacy 2.2GX 4WD

The full-time 4WD Subaru Legacy from £10,999 for the 1.8GL manual saloon to £16,299 for the 2.2GX automatic estate. Rare value, you must agree, for such an award-winning pedigree.

SUBARU

THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE.

SUBARU LTD, RYDER STREET, WEST MIDLANDS, B70 8ET. TELEPHONE: 021-522 2000. A SUBSIDIARY OF I.M. GROUP LIMITED. ALL CURRENT SUBARU VEHICLES RUN ON UNLEADED OR LEADED FUEL WITHOUT CONVERSION. PRICES (EXCLUDING DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES) CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

WHAT ARE THE TEN BEST CARS IN THE WORLD?

(THE £20,000 ALFA ROMEO 164 IS TWO OF THEM).

A recent issue of Performance Car Magazine made an attempt to nominate the best cars on sale in the world today.

It came up with a list of ten cars which, in their opinion, were best in various categories.

THE BEST CARS IN THE WORLD.

Best Styling:	Alfa Romeo 164
Best Engine:	Alfa Romeo 164
Best Supercar:	Ferrari F40
Best Sportscar:	Mazda MX-5
Best Handling:	Lotus Esprit
Most Fun:	Caterham Seven
Best Interior:	BMW 5-series
Best Saloon:	BMW M5
Best Hot Hatch:	Peugeot 309
Performance Car of the Year:	Porsche Carrera 2

The Alfa Romeo 164 was rated as the best styled



car and to have the best engine. (A not inconsiderable achievement when you consider it was evaluated against Ferrari, Porsche and Lamborghini.)

But rather than taking our word for it, you should read what they said:

BEST STYLING: ALFA ROMEO 164.

"A great car should have sculptural qualities when stationary. Yet work as a piece of kinetic art when in motion. It must be functional, yet this function must arise from the form and not fight it."

"Or, put more pragmatically, you should be able to drool over the car from your living room window as it stands in the drive, admire it as its reflection bounces back from shop windows, feel a buzz of elation as you survey the result of the Sunday morning wash and polish."

"The stylists at Pininfarina are masters of this. Back at the 1986 Turin Show, the Italian styling house presented a pair of sports cars called Vivace. One was a convertible, one a coupe; both had low, rounded

fronts with no decoration save the Alfa shield and an air intake, redolent of the original Giulietta, either side of the shield's bottom point. And both were purer, simpler and far more enduring than anything the other Italian styling houses had to offer in that lacklustre year.

"Many of Vivace's elements have rubbed off on Pininfarina's 164, the boldest, purest, best-looking saloon there is – and the best-looking production car, period.

"From that low and minimally-adorned nose in which the Alfa shield is given rightful emphasis, through the low front wings and rising gradually to the tail, the shape simply oozes thrust and motion.

"At the rearmost end of that sculpted line below the waist, you find not the Tokyo-by-night multi-coloured overkill splashed over the tail of most modern cars, but slim light lenses which continue the line around the back. Here are form and function reconciled.

192bhp against 188. But common to both are a crackling-crisp throttle response and the creamiest of power deliveries (better in the 164 because the overrun fuel cut-off is more progressive), and smoothness to match nearly any straight-six.

"But no straight-six will match that sound. Listen, and you will know that the engine is revelling in every second of its power production, and happiest when producing the most. Italian engines are often like this, for they reflect the volatile humanity, the love of good and artistic things, so often found in their creators. Italian engines transcend the merely utilitarian notion of making a car go: for the right driver, they are nectar on wheels.

"A straight-six would be hard pressed to match the beauty of an Alfa V6, too. Less squeaky-clean-cut than those of a Japanese engine, or even a German one, the V6's aluminium castings are items of sculpture in their own right, seemingly fashioned by humans and not computers. So too are the forged steel crankshaft, and the 164's bright metal intake tubes.

"Common to all versions, though, is a cross section shaped as a heart. It's fitting; a heart is just what this most mellifluous of engines is.

"Runners-up? Porsche's flat-six, Jaguar's V12, BMW's 24-valve M-Power six as used in the latest M5 plus most engines by Ferrari and Lamborghini.

"All are more potent than the Alfa engine, most are ultimately more exciting. But, somehow, Alfa's V6 is the friendliest, the most human of them all."

Of course, there's more to the Alfa Romeo 164 than engine and styling. From £19,655, it is not only substantially less than a Ferrari F40, it is also less than most of its rivals such as the BMW 5 series.

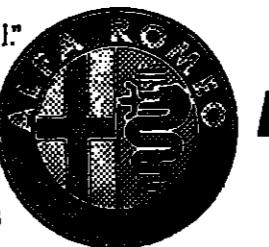
Yet it is still fitted with electric front seats, windows and door mirrors as well as ABS and a three-year unlimited mileage warranty as standard.

The Lusso model, at £22,145, also includes air conditioning, an electric sun roof, alloy wheels and compact disc player, while its automatic version at £22,955 has also won admiring reviews from the press.

(A car that moved the Financial Times to say 'the automatic 164's power flowed as smoothly as double cream pouring on to strawberries.)

Naturally, you will have your own ideas about which cars are the very best in the world. But if you take the Alfa Romeo 164 for a test drive, you may well discover why motoring journalists who have assessed everything available on four wheels, place it so highly.

For more information on the Alfa Romeo 164, complete the coupon and send it to: Alfa Romeo Information Service, FREEPOST 952, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9BR, or telephone (0304) 617788 (24 hours).



A RACE APART

The wheel arches are simple and round, after all, that's the shape of the wheels; the lower body sides and bumpers are dark grey but glossy, instead of that dull matt finish which shows the dirt; and there's no superfluous adornment anywhere. Even the Pininfarina badge between the front wheel and front door is a model of discretion."

BEST ENGINE: ALFA ROMEO 164.

"It's that Alfa 164 again – except that the silky-smooth, all-aluminium 2959cc V6 sounds even better when installed longitudinally in a 75, even if it is slightly less well-disciplined.

"And sound is central to this wonderful power plant. At high revs it's a seamless, open-mouthed blare of the most joyous and spine-tingling kind. At lower revs it's a tuneful, velvety hum, with a trace of a V6 beat in the 164, none in the 75. Different manifolding is the reason.

"This also explains the 164 version's extra power,

Mr. Mrs. Miss, etc.	Initial Surname
Address	
Town, City	
County	Postal Code
Tel. No.	Present Car
Year of reg.	Tick box for test drive.

Buyers spoilt for choice

Never before have executive car buyers been so spoilt for choice. Manufacturers, encouraged by the growth of this sector in the 1980s, have poured resources into producing bigger, more powerful and more attractive cars. The result is a wide range of models, any of which could transport the executive from home to office to client in comfort and safety and with speed and economy.

The evolution of the executive car has been rapid, making it a very different animal in 1990 from the 1980 version. Ten years ago the main attribute for a top-of-the-range car was its size. However, the blurb in the glossy brochures did not point out that big meant bulky. There were other copywriter descriptions, such as powerful (slow, but enough to pull two tons of car), fuel-efficient (get a tanker to follow close behind) and set apart from the crowd (costs a fortune).

In 1990 executives can choose from a variety of cars priced between £15,000 and £35,000. The vehicles vary greatly in size and attributes, making it difficult to define an executive car exactly.

The Porsche, low-slung and powerful, is as much the executive car now as the Vauxhall Carlton, because

Manufacturers have been encouraged by the expanding luxury market and have developed the cars to catch the customers. Kevin Eason looks at some of the new models

executives in many company fleet schemes are being allowed to decide how to use their buying power.

But the choosing is becoming an enormous problem. The executive requiring power with the sure-footed roadholding of a mountain goat would previously have faced only the choice of buying a cheaper Porsche.

Now there are many high-performance saloons offering impressive specifications, such as Ford's £25,000 Sierra Cosworth, an executive car just like the Granada series. The evidence from customer checks is that the 200 brake horsepower test is much more likely to be owned by a country vet than a whiz-kid champagne lou.

The Cosworth has phenomenal abilities, such as a top speed of 150mph and enormous cornering powers. The vet in the new four-wheel-drive version will not want to scare the sheep by roaring around country lanes, but will appreciate the car's certain grip and flexibility.

Ford's claims about the type

of customer who selects the Cosworth emphasizes the range available to executives, especially among those who use company cars and have been freed from the usual restrictions of office.

Engine size, which is often a criterion for choosing a model — bigger engines reflecting the executive's importance — need not be a constraint.

Many manufacturers produce smaller-engined cars with at least as much performance capability as their bigger brothers, and often more.

The old "Buy British" policy is also dying out in many companies. Executives are allowed now to choose from a selection of European models, provided they are manufactured in the European Community, opening the door to the forthcoming cars from Toyota, Nissan and Honda.

The greatest beneficiaries of the change in policy so far have been such companies as BMW and Citroën with new models that have tempted some buyers away from their traditional choices.

BMW has had huge success

with its 5-series model, taking the executive into a slightly smaller car but with definite "big car" comfort. Performance throughout the range is also improved, and the 5-series is one of the most pleasing executive cars.

Anti-lock brakes, multi-adjusted windscreen wipers, standard in the 525i version, one of the most popular with company fleets, to add to 137mph top speed performance and fuel consumption averaging 29 miles per gallon of unleaded.

Evidence of the car's qualities is its popularity with the 5-series, one of only a handful of executive models to increase sales this year, albeit marginally. Sales were up from 5,595 to 5,623 in the first four months against the background of falling sales for the rest of the market.

Citroën's XM, meanwhile, has entered the top 10 sales league with an impressive start to the year since launch at the end of 1989. Nearly 3,000 are on British roads now, following the huge success of the car in France.

Fears that some of the XM's more quirky characteristics would irritate executives and make them choose another model have been outweighed by its outstandingly different looks. You love them or hate them. If you love them, from the sharply pointed nose to the high rear hatch, you get a choice of variants from a wonderful misericord diesel right through to a three-litre, 24-valve V6, due out soon, which promises to take on the racier BMWs and Rovers.

Cars that seem to have fallen out of favour, for the moment anyway, are Mercedes, Jaguars and Volvos.

Mercedes has found the going tough despite its image as the highest-quality executive car maker in the market. Sales in the first five months of the year have slipped from more than 13,000 to 12,300, emphasizing the cuts in company car spending.

However, Mercedes is not despondent as the rate of sales slippage is less than that in most of the market, and most of its new products are getting higher performance and safety ratings than ever. Revamped cars are promised soon and the new SL coupé has become one of the most desirable cars in the world, commanding huge black market prices.

Although world-wide sales of Jaguars are being supported by growth in the Far East and Europe and a steady market in the United States, the picture is different here in Britain.

The gorgeous XJ6 saloon is clearly a casualty of the belt-tightening in industry at the moment — after all, it does not do for the managing director to turn up in his new Jag while his company is trying to cut costs and is asking everyone else to be frugal.

This year Volvo has sold fewer of its big 200 and 700 saloons. The Volvo has been a favourite with British businessmen and their families as a solid, suburban tourer with a good safety record. Unfortunately, its virtues are outweighed by its sheer size and by being overtaken by more accomplished models — such as the revitalized Saab 9000 range and the new Vauxhalls.

Demand for Saab's 9000 is increasing, a result of substantial revamping. New four-cylinder, 2.3-litre engines are available. The "four pots" have not proved, as critics predicted, a drawback at the top of the executive segment, where smoother six-cylinder units are usually expected.

Instead, the all-round qualities of luxurious ride and good handling have convinced 2,000 executives this year to choose the Saab 9000.

The British arm of General Motors, the world's biggest auto maker, has pulled itself together in the past few years. The Carlton and Senator have produced some best-in-class performances.

The Senator has found it difficult to enter the top 10 against competition from the more expensive Rover and Granada, but it has matured into a fine car. In its range-topping three-litre 24-valve CD format, the Senator offers astonishing handling and performance and the wood and leather opulence found in many a model with greater pretensions and certainly a higher price.

At about £25,000, the Carlton outperforms and out-earns rivals such as the BMW 730iSE at almost £29,000 and the Mercedes 300E-24, which is about £31,000. The Carlton, the third best-selling executive car, is highly rated in all its forms and underlines the advantages that Vauxhall has made in revamping its range.

This also means that the car is snapping at the heels of the big two in the executive car sales league — the Rover 800 and Ford's Granada.

The Rover 800 has suffered mightily from mass desertion by boardroom buyers this year.

Up to April it had sold just over 8,500, compared with more than 12,000 at the corresponding stage of 1989,

when it led the sales league.

Few manufacturers have

made sufficient sales gains to

account for the huge losses by the 800 series.

Resale prices in the trade

seem poor, and the factory

that turns out the executive

car at Cowley, Oxford, has had

interruption short-time working

as the company tries to

hold down stock levels.

Yet the 800 is a fine car with all the

virtues of British performance



Still in the lead: Ford's Granada has been overhauled and extras have been added



The Senator: still trying to get into the top 10. Its rivals are the Granada and Rover

and interior comforts and sound Japanese engineering sense, especially in the latest 2.7-litre engines powering the higher-range models.

Certainly, the Rover has not been hammered by the Ford Granada, the top executive choice. Granada sales have held steady at the start of this year — good in the circumstances of a rapidly falling market but not so good that Ford can relax.

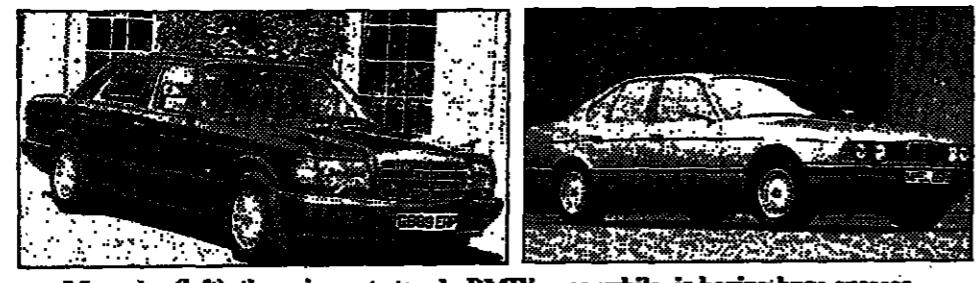
The Granada has had a turbulent time ahead, but for those increasingly few with the cash to spend there has probably never been a better time to buy. Although dealers are never keen to offer discounts, it seems unimaginable that they will not snatch the cheque from the first executive prepared to take away some hard-to-move metal.



Impressive: Citroën has sold 3,000 XMs in Britain



The Rover: buyers from the boardroom have deserted one of their favourites lately.



Mercedes (left): the going gets tough. BMW, meanwhile, is having huge success

Enjoy it, you've earned it.

It hasn't been easy getting this far. But at last you've arrived. Proof of it is your new Ford Granada.

Take a look at it.

The new Granada has been redesigned for the '90s.

To complement our hatchback we've introduced a new 4-door version which is the perfect extension to this stylish range of cars.

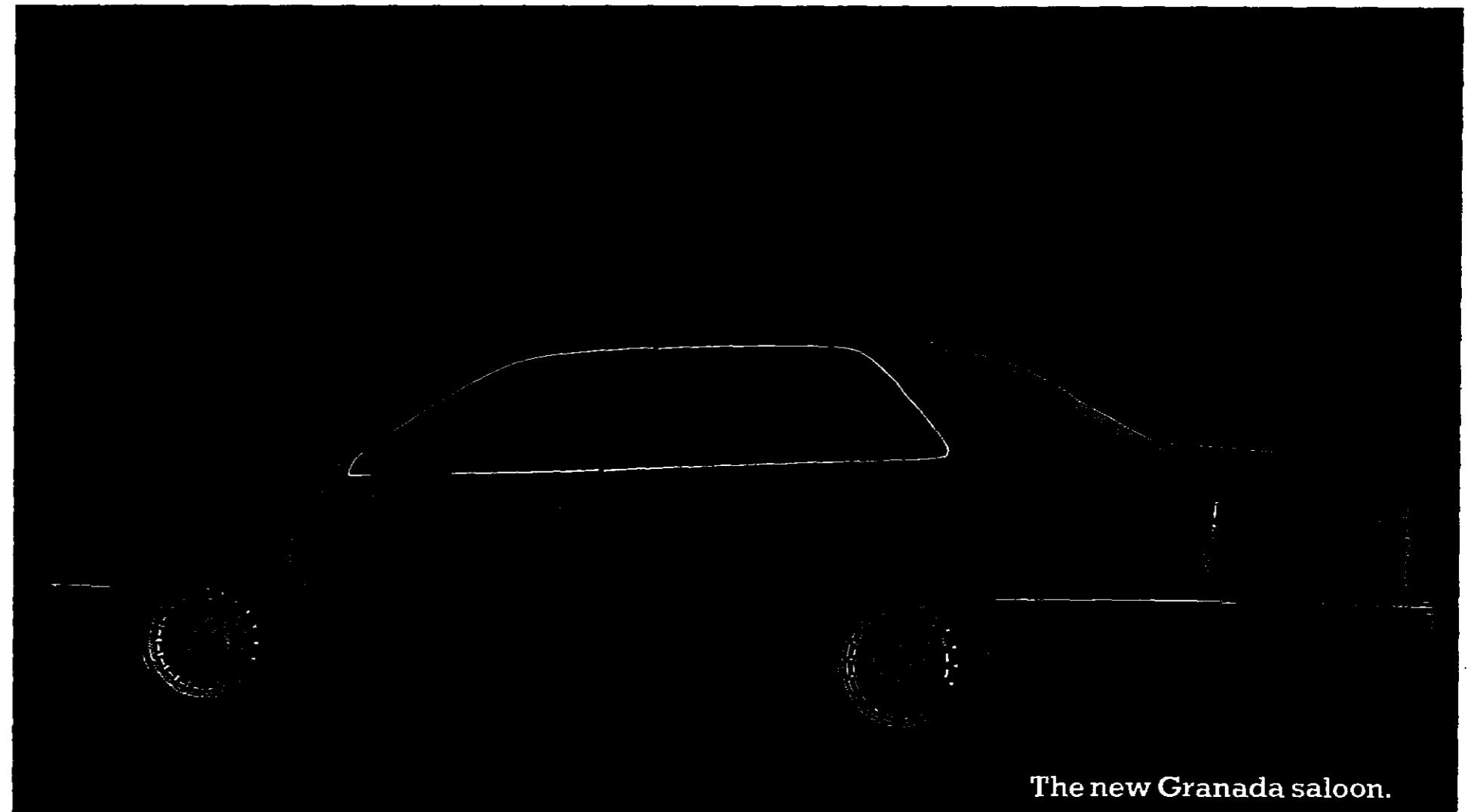
The spacious new boot, (17.3 cubic feet to be exact), will allow plenty of room for those golf clubs.

And if you need even more space, the rear seats fold down.

There's an impressive choice of power units as well, the most recent addition being the new 2.0 litre Double Overhead Camshaft Engine. Mated with the new MT75 gearbox and newly revised suspension system, you're guaranteed the smoothest of rides on your way to the rockiest of meetings.

As for the interior specification. Well, you shall have music wherever you go. It's just a case of which system.

In addition to our standard range of radio/cassette systems with 4 speakers, you might opt for our Ford Premium Sound 8-speaker Compact Disc system. Which is available on all Ghia models.



The new Granada saloon.

Fast Lane magazine has hailed it as "a huge step forward in sound quality."

Driving comfort is enhanced, as well, by anatomically designed seats which can be adjusted to help you find your ideal driving position.

Furthermore, the steering wheel will rake and reach to suit you.

Variable rate power assisted steering

makes for effortless parking, and the generous glass areas ensure excellent vision as you manoeuvre your way in and out of the Directors' car park.

More important still, all Granadas are fitted with Ford's award-winning electronically controlled anti-lock four wheel disc brakes (ABS) as standard.

And don't forget that, as part of

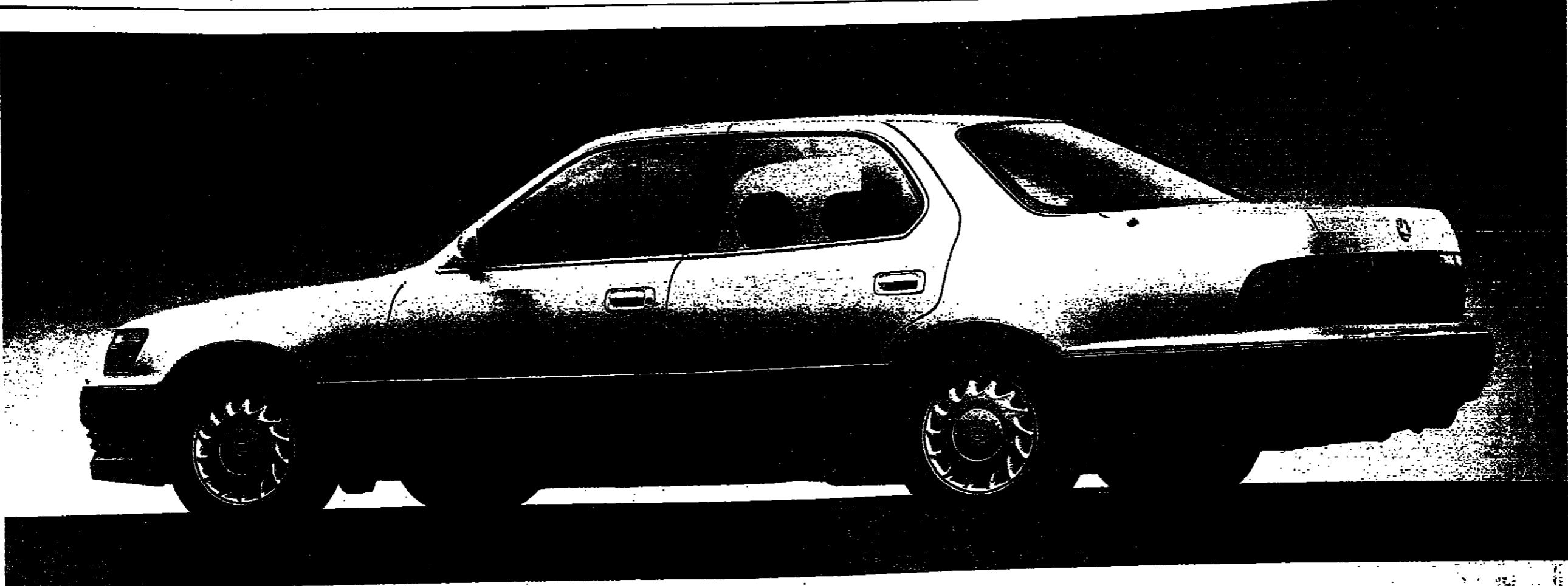
Ford's new Aftercare package, every new Ford comes with one year's free RAC membership.

The new Ford Granada. Whoever coined the phrase 'it's tough at the top' didn't drive one.



The 4&5 door Granadas.

For a catalogue call the Ford Information Service free on 0800 01 01 12.



IT'S CAPABLE OF 155 MPH. SO WHY DID IT TAKE SIX YEARS TO GET HERE?

Concorde can cross the Atlantic in a little under three hours.

Apollo 11 flew to the moon in a touch over four days.

Which begs the question, why did it take the Lexus LS400 six years to get from the Shibetsu test track to the showroom?

To answer this you have to turn the clock back to 1933 and the birth of the Toyota Motor Company.

The company set out, in the words of founder Sakichi Toyoda, to "stay ahead of the times."

This meant every new car would have to set new standards, not follow old ones. It also meant the Lexus LS400 would not be ready overnight.

In 1983 the production team was assembled. 2,300 technicians, 60 designers and stylists, 1,400 engineers, and 220 support workers.

Their brief was to assume nothing, and consider everything.

That's why over fifty wind tunnel tests were carried out before they achieved the lowest drag coefficient of any luxury saloon.

To boost the V8 engine's output they built a new factory that manufactured the cylinder block and heads more accurately than ever before.

To minimise sound from the outside, clay models were fitted with microphones to detect any unnecessary wind noise.

To maximise sound on the inside they fitted a Pioneer seven speaker stereo system with compact disc auto changer in the boot.

The 155 mph, four-cam, 32 valve, 240bhp engine was only developed after burning much midnight oil. (Conclusive proof that if you're going to make a fast car, make it slowly.)

A team spent two years scouring the world until they found a leather with the right feel, looks and durability.

A test track was built that comprised authentic motorway sections and minor routes to ensure a smooth ride whatever the road.

In all, 450 prototypes and 900 engines were tested, improved, and retested. Clocking up over a million miles in the process.

In fact so numerous were the breakthroughs that by 1989 Lexus had already broken a world record.

The LS400 boasted the greatest number of patent applications (over 300) for any new car.

But if all these developments cost us rather a lot (£300 million or so), Lexus will cost you considerably less (£34,250 to be precise).

If you would like further information then please telephone 0800 800 440.

The Lexus LS400. Nothing on the clock, yet it's already gone further than any other car.

LEXUS
THE LUXURY DIVISION OF TOYOTA

Ford takes Jaguar into care and protection

When Ford bought Jaguar for £1.6 billion most motor industry-watchers expected that great, though unspecified, changes in product, manufacture and management would be made by the Coventry-based luxury car producer. Yet, apart from the generally foreseen departure of Sir John Egan at the end of this month, little has visibly changed, which is exactly what the Ford wants it.

It would be no exaggeration to say that senior Ford management, in Detroit as well as Brentwood, Essex, is verging on the neurotic about maintaining its wish for Jaguar to remain, *de principio* as well as *de facto*, quite autonomous and independent of its parent company. This extends to the strict understanding that Ford executives may visit Browns Lane only when invited to do so. Dropping in to visit the Coventry factory is not only discouraged — it is not even allowed.

There is great concern that the public perception of the independence of Jaguar may be lost and that the goodwill Ford bought along with the company will disappear, and with it the vital identification that the name Jaguar has in its market sector. So every effort is being made to ensure that Jaguar remains Jaguar and that cars bearing a blue oval badge remain quite separate in

How two companies combined and then stayed apart, by John Blauth

both perception and marketing terms from those bearing the jungle cat symbol. There will be no joint franchises or dealers and there have been only two executive Ford appointees to Jaguar's board — Bill Hayden, succeeding Sir John Egan as chairman and chief executive, and John Grant, previously executive director of Ford's Detroit-based corporate strategy and diversification planning staff, who has come in as deputy chairman. Lindsey Halstead, chairman of Ford of Europe, has been made a non-executive director of Jaguar.

In his first statement after his appointment, Mr Hayden said that during the next 15

Bill Hayden (right) wants production of Jaguar cars increasing to 200,000 a year within 15 years



years Jaguar production will have to increase from its present 50,000 cars a year to 200,000 but added that he would not want to see that figure exceeded. "You end up with luxury cars being used as taxis," he was quoted as saying. To build that number of cars every year will require a new factory. Jaguar has confirmed that its production will remain in the West Midlands, though not necessarily at Browns Lane. There is space at the Castle Bromwich body-making plant but another option is for a completely new site. However, jobs are secure, *insofar as they can be* — perhaps more now than before.

The 3.6-litre XJ-S will be fitted with the saloon's four-litre engine and the V12 continues as before.

A 3.2-litre multi-valve-engined saloon will be added to the range to replace the 2.9-engined car. The V12 saloon comes next year.

The much heralded XJ220 supercar project continues as planned, and all the cars have been sold before the first has

even been built. All these developments are organic. Jaguar before Ford was heavily burdened with engineering and manufacturing requirements, which allowed it no room to develop its product line fully. Plans for the smaller car existed before the company was bought. Now, after the purchase, they can be taken forward and developed into production.

One should not underestimate the importance of Ford at Jaguar. Its influence is very much a behind-the-scenes affair. For example, recent retirements from Ford's manufacturing and engineering operations have been taken on as consultants and advisers, and Ford's buying clout is helping in component pur-

chase and in reducing the purchasing bill overall. The quality of components has also improved because Ford's parts bin is now available to Jaguar engineers, should they require it.

T

his does not mean a

reduction in walnut

and leather, but ac-

cess to the latest in

switchgear, electrical com-

ponents and the like. A

Jaguar is a Jaguar and will

never be a Granada.

Access to Ford technology

and engineering design in

a number of areas such as air-

bag fitting and manufac-

turing, and air-conditioning, for ex-

ample, reduces the burden on

Jaguar resources and allows

Jaguar the breathing space it

needs to survive and succeed

in that market. Product

reliability and quality are, above all, the requirements for success in the luxury car market, and the European launch of the Toyota Lexus has changed the rules for all manufacturers.

The quality of the Lexus is exceptionally high and Jaguar is among the most vulnerable of marques to its success. Ford's stated intentions, which are being proved in practice, are that although it will not interfere with Jaguar's spirit or its corporate personality, it will help it produce cars that not only match but beat the best that the Japanese can do.

Initial indications are that Ford is succeeding in its aims. It usually does.



Expertise at work: finishing touches for a Jaguar at the company's works. Ford promises the prestige car will stay.



The classic expert: Peter Fischer believes executives want cars from the late 1950s, the 1960s and the 1970s that will suit the corporate pocket

Investments with classic appreciation

Many companies have decided to buy classic cars, which can impress the customers and even appreciate in value

In the past 18 months there has been an explosion on the British classic car scene (*Tim Healy writes*). Interest in classic cars has spawned a number of glossy magazines catering for those able to buy a 1929 Mercedes-Benz SSK for a cool £6.5 million on the one hand and those wanting to restore a battered MG worth £6,500 on the other.

The magazines follow an upsurge of interest that has doubled the number of classic car auctions being held around the country.

It has also seen the bying of certain marques beyond the bounds of common sense.

The classic car — a vague categorization that can mean almost anything you want it to — is essentially something from a bygone age that is to be cherished.

While the interest grows, the classic car is beginning to take on a more active commercial role, one in which it is not only loved for what it is, but is also tax-efficient and a good investment. That new role is the classic executive car. It is a small but growing market, essentially British in character. The modern, powerful executive company car, which the employer buys and maintains, is a peculiarly British institution.

It was encouraged by government policy to peg inflation

to the rate of the classic car market in recent months, the sleek lines of a mature Bentley or Rolls-Royce are proving an interesting option for executives, who believe their car should portray some of their character as well as status; the modern executive car is failing to deliver.

Whether it is the latest Jaguar, top-of-the-range Ford, or Vauxhall's new Lotus Carlton, there is a feeling among some that they are mass-produced and lack the individual character of just a couple of decades ago.

It still holds true if the company's managing director would like to acquire a rare Bentley Continental — of which only 1,100 were made — at about £250,000.

But it is unlikely that any same company chief would want to risk a cool quarter of a million every day negotiating the M25. That is why the classics-for-executives market falls into two distinct categories — those bought purely as an investment and for show, and those bought as an investment but also for work.

Peter Fischer, a classic auto mobiles expert, believes the two-tier market is clearly defined. Mr Fischer, who owns a dealership in Putney, south-west London, handling mainly Rolls-Royces and Bentleys, believes that for practical everyday purposes executives are looking for cars from the late 1950s, the 1960s and the 1970s. They are nearer the corporate pockets of most organizations and can be expected to run without serious maintenance problems.

"The classic option is clearly an advantage for some companies and they tend to look to the use of a Corniche from the 1970s or a Silver Shadow with a reasonable mileage," he says. "I, for example, could not afford to buy a new Mini. It would not give me the assurance I need nor the protection if I were involved in an accident."

"I drive a T2 Bentley. Which I bought some 18 months ago for £22,000. It had done 35,000 miles when I bought it. I have done 3,000 miles in it and I could expect to sell it for £28,000-£30,000."

For the more sporty-minded the Aston Martin combines grace, power and speed. But in classic terms, the Aston has been a victim of the recent over-pricing hype and the price has fallen. Astons

were going for double prices in Britain and were having to be imported from West Germany or the United States.

Some classic cars, however, may not be suitable for the executive role. Derek James, who runs a successful business in Surrey, says: "To be frank, some classics would not stand everyday use in big city traffic. But, on the other hand, if a company wanted to impress the occasional VIP client, I am sure it would prove a fine investment. Apart from the hyped sports cars, the classic car is a fine investment anyway at the moment and the executive could always drive it at the weekends."

"Whatever name you give it a classic car is second-hand and has the attendant problems. Mr Fischer warns buyers: "With some of the older classics it is difficult to trace their pedigree. So I would advise using a reputable dealer and, where possible, checking the service record."

However popular the classic option becomes, market analysts say we are unlikely to see big changes in buying patterns and that the new executive car is here to stay.

Tony Jones, of Lex Vehicle Leasing, says: "I don't believe the tax incentives of opting classic is affecting the new executive car market in any material way."

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Computers, fax machines and telephones add to productivity for today's executive

A mobile telephone is not only a voice messaging device. Its radio link into the telephone network can also provide the information technology systems normally available to executives only in a fully serviced office (*David Rowlands writes*).

The truly mobile office has arrived.

With lap-top computers, fax machines for in-car use, and car phones, executives on the move can make use of all forms of electronic mail, including telex, data transfer and fax transmission.

The effect on executive productivity is calculated to be worth at least half a day's extra work per week. The productivity gained by mobile telephone installation is another half a day.

Time spent at exhibitions and presentations can be made more productive if many of the head office systems are to hand, in the car, at a customer's premises, by the hotel bed or on the show stand. Mobile telephones and associated data equipment can help to maintain the competitive edge.

Early entrants into this market offered a small range of options. The fax machine was a desk-top model with mains power via an inverter, expensive at about £150, and an equally costly interface at about £250. Similar interfaces as well as a mobile telephone modem, at about £600, are needed to connect a lap-top computer to the telephone for fault-free data transmission.

The gadget is gradually being simplified and improved and the cost reduced.

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Whatever name you give it a classic car is second-hand and has the attendant problems. Mr Fischer warns buyers: "With some of the older classics it is difficult to trace their pedigree. So I would advise using a reputable dealer and, where possible, checking the service record."

However popular the classic option becomes, market analysts say we are unlikely to see big changes in buying patterns and that the new executive car is here to stay.

Tony Jones, of Lex Vehicle Leasing, says: "I don't believe the tax incentives of opting classic is affecting the new executive car market in any material way."

For the more sporty-minded the Aston Martin combines grace, power and speed. But in classic terms, the Aston has been a victim of the recent over-pricing hype and the price has fallen. Astons

were going for double prices in Britain and were having to be imported from West Germany or the United States.

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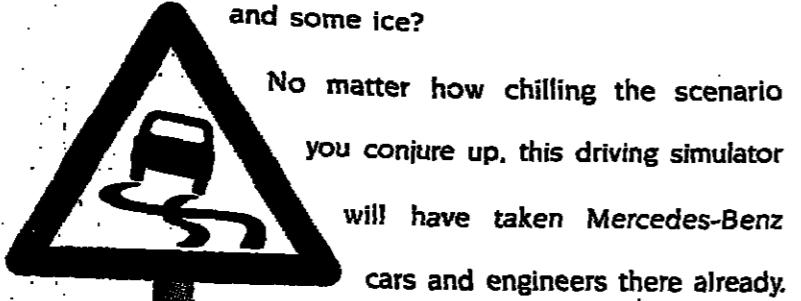
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Even more extraordinary than the appearance of this multi-limbed alien is the cleverness of its brain. And that is exceeded only by the nastiness of the world it creates. Imagine some never-to-be-wished motoring nightmare. A blown tyre on a B-road and an oncoming truck, perhaps. Why not throw in a sharp bend, a touch too much speed, and some ice?



No matter how chilling the scenario you conjure up, this driving simulator will have taken Mercedes-Benz cars and engineers there already.

It will have helped to ensure that safety elements built into every Mercedes-Benz – whether they're braking, powertrain, steering or suspension systems – are as effectively designed as it is possible to make them.

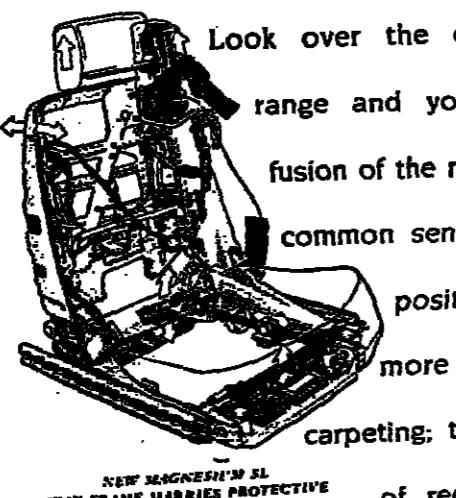
Within the high-tech confines of this unique Mercedes-Benz research tool, the entire world of driving experience can be reproduced.

Every driving sensation, every road condition, every conceivable traffic and climatic hazard is on tap. (It is possible, for example, to generate enormous simulated lateral acceleration, the sort of cornering stress that only expert drivers can draw from the world's most exotic production sports cars.)

And the benefits to be reaped from such research – be it the design of a Mercedes-Benz seat or direction indicator, a rear suspension linkage or foot pedal – are all the more conclusive for the exceptional realism of the simulator testing.

LUXURY SITS EASILY WITH SAFETY

But never suppose there is no room in the heart of a Mercedes-Benz designer for driving simulator for life's little comforts.

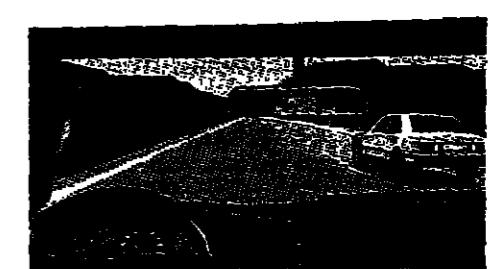


Look over the current Mercedes-Benz range and you'll discover a careful fusion of the rational and aesthetic: the common sense of a flawless driving position, the warmth of new, more luxurious fabrics and carpeting; the support and comfort of redesigned seats that are yielding yet firm enough to inhibit tiredness on long journeys.

And, as the car's aerodynamic efficiency lets it cleave the air in near silence, and as the rubber bushing of the subframes and the generosity of the insulation so effectively isolate the interior from mechanical vibration and road noise, yet another priority becomes apparent. Mercedes-Benz engineers discovered long ago that what you don't experience in a car is just as important as what you do.

ERGONOMICALLY IDEAL CONTROLS AND INSTRUMENTS

Never has a Mercedes-Benz driver been more ably assisted by the crisp logic of the instrument panel and control layout than he is today. Both are models of clarity, perfected in the crucible of the driving simulator: every important control is placed within natural and instantaneous reach, and only information that is crucial to driving safety is grouped directly in the driver's field of view. There is no distracting gimmickry, no digital nonsense, and there are no pseudo-electronics.



SIMULATOR CREATES REALISTIC DRIVING ENVIRONMENT

Once in the driver's seat, your hands fall onto an ergonomically satisfying steering wheel. And on the move, the power-steering assistance varies subtly to complement your own inputs at all speeds, and to ensure maximum feedback sensitivity – precision without exertion – another vital safety and comfort bonus. Yet another bonus is the simulator's ability to test driver reaction to stressful conditions. By learning how human beings actually react in emergencies, as opposed to how they believe they would react, Mercedes-Benz engineers are better placed to design car controls that will assist accident avoidance.

ADVANCED SUSPENSION IMPROVES HANDLING FINESSE

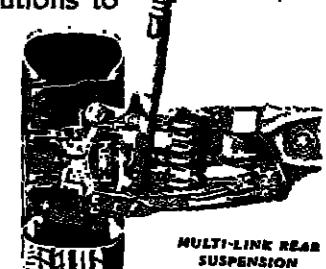
Underpinning the assured and reassuring on-road behaviour of all models, are suspension systems engineered to ensure maximum tyre contact and grip.

Multi-link rear suspension, for instance, is now used extensively. This Mercedes-Benz invention disciplines self-steering and toe-in tendencies that

the rear wheels of all cars are prone to under extreme conditions.

The independently located damper and spring arrangement of the wishbone-mounted front suspension combines the compliant, accommodating ride of long-travel coil springs with the control that dampers anchored close to the wheel-hubs provides. Such optimised front and rear suspension design assures the driver of enviably safe and neutral handling and exceptional comfort at all times.

In the motor industry, no less than in other fields, the search for the best solutions to universal problems is a painstaking business.



MULTI-LINK REAR SUSPENSION IMPROVES STABILITY



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Hull is handed the chance to become a cycling gateway to Europe in 1992

Milk Race ready for Europe

By PETER BRYAN

THE Milk Race is ready for Europe from 1992, Brian Elliott, its organizer, said when this year's 1,200-mile event finished in Liverpool at the weekend.

Hull has next year been awarded the responsibility of staging the 1991 prologue and also the opening day's racing on Humberside, and the city may then become the leading candidate to provide the Milk Race's first link with the Continent. There are plans to hold one or more stages of the race in Europe from 1992, probably either before or after a stage in Hull.

The first mainland European link was staged in 1947 when the first, and only, amateur Paris-London event was run. Later, in 1974, a stage of the Tour de France was held at Plymouth.

If the Milk Race, one of the world's leading am-pro events, goes into Europe, it is unlikely that this year's winner, Shane Sutton, will be there. The Australian captain of the successful Banana-Falcon team, who celebrates his 33rd birthday this week, is considering retirement at the end of the season.

Sutton made his winning move on the third day of the race, a mountainous stage from Cardiff to Aberystwyth, when he took the 108-mile stage from Tom Bamford, of New Zealand. He was never to lose his race leader's yellow jersey.

That third day was also the turning point for Joey McLoughlin, the winner of the race in 1986, who punctured on the frightening descent of the Gamallt, in pursuit of

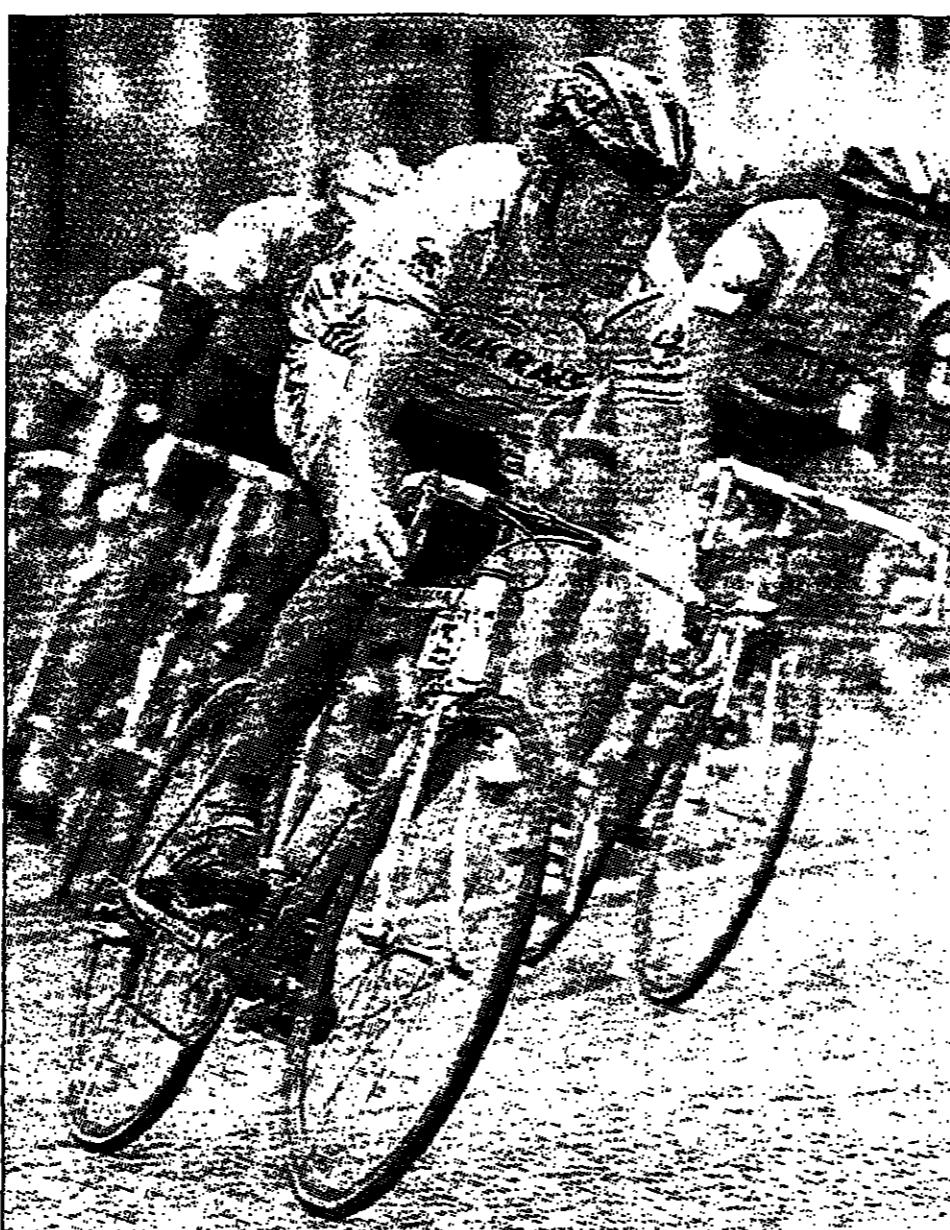
MOTOR CYCLING

Schwartz survives tense duel

SALZBURG, Austria (AFP) — Kevin Schwantz, on a Suzuki, won the 500cc Austrian Grand Prix at the Salzburgring yesterday after a duel against the championship leader and fellow-American, Wayne Rainey, on a Yamaha.

Michael Doohan, of Australia, finished a full 25 seconds later to take third place on a Honda. Doohan and the rest of the field were little more than spectators to a battle between the two Americans which was decided on the very first lap.

Rainey took a narrow lead after the pack, and looked determined to show Schwantz, his only serious rival in the champion-



Out in front: Shane Sutton, of Australia, on his way to victory in the Milk Race

FENCING

Corish in swift victory

MICHAEL Corish, from the London Thieves club, won the British Open épée fencing championship, the Miller-Hallett Cup, for the first time with a swift defeat of his club colleague, Jeremy Melville, 5-2, 5-4 in the final bout (Lesley Drennan writes).

Melville, seeded third, had managed to secure the lead for a single lap, Schwantz's determination put the Texan back into a lead which he did not let slip again.

It was Schwantz's second consecutive victory, after last month's West German Grand Prix.

RESULTS: 500cc: 1, K Schwantz (USA) Suzuki, 38min 21.30s; 2, W Rainey (USA) Yamaha, at 00.58s; 3, M Doohan (Aus) Honda, 25.304s; 4, P F Cota (Ita) Honda,

37.304s; 5, S N McKenzie (GB) Suzuki, 43.34s; 6, B Poynter (GB) Suzuki, 43.42s; 7, V Yamada (Yamaha), 1:06.07s; 8, J Ruggio (Fr) Yamaha, 1:06.07s; 9, G Gerig (Sp) Yamaha, 10, R Matsumoto (USA) Yamaha, 1:16.07s; 11, C Cottrell (GB) Yamaha, 1:16.07s; 12, J Palmer (USA) Yamaha, 1:16.07s; 13, R Holden (GB) Yamaha, 45hr 26m 22secs; 14, R Holden (GB) Yamaha, 45hr 26m 22secs; 15, M Van der Poel (Neth) 4:02s; 16, M Linsk (Cze) 4:02s; 17, M Linsk (Cze) 4:02s; 18, J van der Laer (Bel) 4:02s; 19, C Compere (Bel) 4:02s; 20, S Prin (Wes) 4:02s; 21, A Barros (Port) 4:02s; 22, S Casanova (Hon) 4:02s; 23, G Gerig (Sp) 4:02s; 24, N McNamee (GB) 4:02s; 25, C Serron (Fr) 4:02s; 26, J P Ruggio (Fr) 4:02s; 27, 1, L Capriotti (Hon) 4:02s; 28, 2, S Casanova (Hon) 4:02s; 29, 3, S Prin (Wes) 4:02s; 30, 4, D Martinez (Sp) 4:02s; 31, 11, A Barros (Port) 4:02s; 32, 6, S Casanova (Hon) 4:02s; 33, 9, G Gerig (Sp) 4:02s; 34, 8, J Palmer (USA) 4:02s; 35, 7, V Yamada (Yamaha) 4:02s; 36, 5, S N McKenzie (GB) 4:02s; 37, 10, R Matsumoto (USA) 4:02s; 38, 12, J Palmer (USA) 4:02s; 39, 13, R Holden (GB) 4:02s; 40, 14, R Holden (GB) 4:02s; 41, 15, M Van der Poel (Neth) 4:02s; 42, 16, M Linsk (Cze) 4:02s; 43, 17, M Linsk (Cze) 4:02s; 44, 18, J van der Laer (Bel) 4:02s; 45, 19, C Compere (Bel) 4:02s; 46, 20, S Prin (Wes) 4:02s; 47, 21, A Barros (Port) 4:02s; 48, 22, S Casanova (Hon) 4:02s; 49, 23, G Gerig (Sp) 4:02s; 50, 24, N McNamee (GB) 4:02s; 51, 25, C Serron (Fr) 4:02s; 52, 26, J P Ruggio (Fr) 4:02s; 53, 27, 1, L Capriotti (Hon) 4:02s; 54, 28, 2, S Casanova (Hon) 4:02s; 55, 3, S Prin (Wes) 4:02s; 56, 4, D Martinez (Sp) 4:02s; 57, 5, S N McKenzie (GB) 4:02s; 58, 6, J Palmer (USA) 4:02s; 59, 7, V Yamada (Yamaha) 4:02s; 60, 8, G Gerig (Sp) 4:02s; 61, 9, R Matsumoto (USA) 4:02s; 62, 10, R Holden (GB) 4:02s; 63, 11, C Cottrell (GB) 4:02s; 64, 12, J Palmer (USA) 4:02s; 65, 13, R Holden (GB) 4:02s; 66, 14, R Holden (GB) 4:02s; 67, 15, M Van der Poel (Neth) 4:02s; 68, 16, M Linsk (Cze) 4:02s; 69, 17, M Linsk (Cze) 4:02s; 70, 18, J van der Laer (Bel) 4:02s; 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Charlton's men keen to pass the burden of favouritism on to England

Irish revel in traditional role

From CLIVE WHITE, CAGLIARI

IF THESE World Cup finals have taught us anything so far, it is that the term "underdogs" carries little or no significance in international football when played at its highest level. Today's underdogs are tomorrow's top dogs, and vice versa. Yet most of the participants in this championship still yearn for that quiet, shady corner where they can escape the often intolerable heat of favouritism.

Not for them, though, the Muhammad Ali ideology of intimidating or inhibiting opponents with unkempt words. The way of gaining the upper hand in football is to pass on the burden of expectancy with words of praise. The Irish and Dutch were both at it yesterday on the eve of the opening game in group F.

Ray Houghton was warning that John Barnes, his England rival and Liverpool colleague, could be the undoing of his own Republic of Ireland team, while Johan Cruyff was forecasting that the Irish could "surprise the world". Houghton's more modest prediction seemed to make the better sense.

In the past four years few teams have made greater capital out of being "underdogs" than the Irish. It is a label which they are reluctant to part with, despite establishing one of the most impressive records in international football. The Irish have been beaten just twice in three years and are unbeaten in their last 13 games, and 20 in Dublin. So much for no-hoppers.

Yet despite this the Irish, as much as they would like you to believe to the contrary, have not improved since they defeated England 1-0 in the European championship finals. On the contrary, they have aged rather than matured, and at an average age of 28 years and five months they are the oldest team here. In recent matches there have been some disturbing creaking noises in central defence, though as a unit it is seldom

Cruijff said yesterday: "The Irish have top-drawer players from top clubs like McGrath, who is a key player in their side. Sheedy can do everything an English player can do and more. With players like these Ireland are going to make history in Italy. I think they will surprise the world this time. You can no longer describe them as underdogs. Jack Charlton likes to tell the world he is going fishing but we all know what he is thinking about when he is fishing."

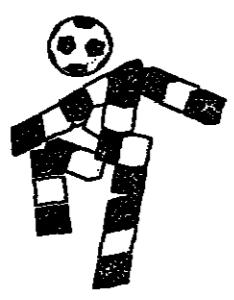
Egypt plan to keep the Dutch guessing

HOSSAM Hassan, the Egyptian forward, has recovered from a leg strain and will play in tomorrow's group F match against the Netherlands. Hassan limped out of training on Saturday and underwent precautionary checks on the injured right leg at a Palermo hospital.

Hassan one of identical twins in the Egyptian squad — his brother, Ibrahim, is a defender — is an important player in a side already deprived of Hisham Abdel-Rasoul, their leading scorer in the qualifying rounds. He was badly hurt in a car accident five months ago.

Egypt have prepared thoroughly for their first appearance in the finals since 1934. El Gohary has had his side together for five months and its internationals against European sides included a 3-1 win over Scotland in Aberdeen.

El Gohary said Egypt had no plans to detail any player to mark Ruud Gullit, the Netherlands captain. The Egypt-



Opening win likely for lowly-rated Scotland

From RODDY FORSYTH
RAPALLO

THIS afternoon in the Luigi Ferraris Stadium in Genoa a Scottish team will make its way on to the World Cup stage for the fifth time in 20 years.

If the present assembly of Scots is the least rated, both by the critics and their own support, they nevertheless have the opportunity to equal the achievements of their supposedly more illustrious predecessors. Should they beat Costa Rica, they will have surpassed the record of the players who journeyed to Mexico in 1986 and returned with only a single point.

In two decades the Scots have recorded a grand total of three victories in the finals — their victims being Zaire in 1974, the Netherlands in 1978, and New Zealand in 1982 — and all advance reports suggest that the Costa Ricans are no formidable football force. A great deal of grief, however, has been visited upon Scotland over the years by opposition which was theoretically

hamstring injury which has periodically compelled him to retreat to the sidelines this season.

Gillespie was confined to a spectating role again yesterday while his colleagues engaged in a light training session on the Ferraris pitch, which they reported to be in acceptable condition. Roxburgh said:

"We have been playing Gary as much as possible in an attempt to bring his match fitness forward, but the problem is lingering and we have ruled him out of our opening match. However, he should be available for the game with Sweden on Saturday. Otherwise, everybody else is available to offer in this contest, although perhaps not for the full 90 minutes."

Judging by the hour they spent engaged in light exercise and ball work yesterday, Maurice Johnston and Ally McCoist appear to be restored to health. Their presence in the Scottish attack is likely to offer a potent threat to a Costa Rican defence which may be both brutal and cynical. It might be, too, that the burly Alan McNulty has something to offer in this contest, although perhaps not for the full 90 minutes.

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fully suggests that Roy Aitken will be employed from the beginning. If the Costa Ricans are stubborn rather than adventurous his forcing presence may prove to be a telling factor.

Scotland's task is to ensure that the Costa Ricans are not permitted the luxury of a view from the summit of group C. To that end Roxburgh will settle for two points and concern himself about goal difference later.

Of course, no Scotland coach is ever likely to enjoy the comfort of choosing from a fully-fit squad. Roxburgh must do without the suddenly fit Gary Gillespie in defence because the Liverpool man has aggravated the persistent

frail, and, as Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland coach, has relentlessly stressed to his squad, for Costa Rica, this afternoon is likely to prove the pinnacle of their achievement in these finals.

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Scotland coach is of course likely to embrace the vision of progress in the finals. Although there will undoubtedly be alarms, it is really not stretching credibility to suggest that Costa Rica will be added to the Scots' meagre list of World Cup battle honours.

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At 4pm Genoa time Scotland have the chance to extract clues about his intentions, but he did add: "This will be a game where our experienced players have an important part to perform." Given his belief that Scotland will have to begin their campaign at full pace, such a statement power-

fully suggests that Roy Aitken will be employed from the beginning. If the Costa Ricans are stubborn rather than adventurous his forcing presence may prove to be a telling factor.

Judging by the hour they spent engaged in light exercise and ball work yesterday, Maurice Johnston and Ally McCoist appear to be restored

Winning weekend in Paris for youngest French tennis Open champion and nearly the oldest

Gómez just breaks grand slam duck

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
PARIS

AT THE age of 30 years and three months, Andrés Gómez won his first grand slam title in the French Open at Roland Garros yesterday. His victory came just 24 hours after Monica Seles had beaten the world No. 1, Steffi Graf, to become the youngest women's champion. In a sense, the contrast summed up a topsy-turvy fortnight at the French Open.

Gómez, the No. 4 seed, beat Andre Agassi, 10 years his junior, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 in a match which never touched the heights of the previous day and, occasionally, as mistake followed mistake, brought unflattering comparison with the junior singles final played earlier in the day. The fact that Gómez, after 27 grand slam attempts, was able to lift his first trophy and take a bow before the Ecuadorian flag unfurled by a small band of his countrymen owed much to his strength of character, almost as much to Agassi's fragility on the big points. Experience, Gómez called it, though neither had been in a grand slam final before.

"Agassi said that we would both be the same because, though I am 10 years older, it is the first grand slam final for both of us. But I have been in more finals than he has and I think that had to play a part in the end," Gómez said.

At the end, as one last forehand caught Agassi flat-footed, Gómez flung his racket in the air and disappeared out of the stadium to get his son, Juan Andres, aged two and a half, who, not surprisingly was very confused by the attention of the 16,000 crowd on centre court. He had not watched the match, which was probably a blessing because it was not a classic and, as the nerves jangled from start to finish, rarely even reached the mediocre.

Agassi's plan was to work the older and bulkier Gómez round the court until his ageing legs went heavy. He had done much the same to Chang in the quarter-finals, but when the time came he was unable to come to terms with the unpredictable rhythm of the South American's game. The difference in the end was that, in times of trouble – and there were plenty for both players – Gómez was able to rely on his serve, while Agassi's groundstrokes, so powerful and decisive against Chang and Svensson in the last two rounds, lacked penetration and precision.

"If I had made him work harder on his service games, I think I could have won him down," Agassi said. "But I let him get away with a free set at the start and that helped him in the end. The big problem was that I could never get him down. If I could have got ahead of him a little, maybe it would have been different."

Gómez also felt that if there had been a fifth set, Agassi's fitness, which he has been telling us about the whole of the last fortnight, might well

Paris results

MEN'S SINGLES: Final: A Gómez (Ec) bt A Agassi (Us), 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.
WOMEN'S SINGLES: Final: M Seles (Yug), 6-3, 6-4; Semifinal: S Graf (Us) and P Sanchez (Sp) bt E Santoro (Yug) and P Korda (Cz), 7-5, 6-3.
MIXED DOUBLES: Final: A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) and J Lozano (Mex) bt N Provis (Aus) and D Visser (SA), 7-6, 7-6.

have brought him his first title. "I am not like Wilander. I cannot play six hours matches and never have been able to. I've not got a good pair of legs and I was getting very tired by the end of the fourth set. I had to win then," Gómez admitted.

When Gómez took the first set, producing an ace on his second serve to win it after half an hour, it seemed certain that the American's allergy to left-handers – he has a poor record against Carl-Uwe Steib, for example, and had lost twice in four meetings with Gómez – would be bound to continue. But Gómez resolutely refused to ram home his advantage.

Instead of settling into a rhythm, he went into one of the wayward phases which have blighted his career. Forehands went long, backhands rapped the net and, for a while, the big first serve, delivered with the minimum of backswing, went missing. Agassi broke serve four times in a row and, after an hour, had levelled the match.

Even then, neither man seemed to settle into a pattern of play. Agassi, who thrives on the flamboyant in his play as much as his dress, had not managed to produce his usual brand of the spectacular and the crowd sensed the lack of inspiration. Yet, when he flashed a forehand past Gómez to break back to 4-4 in the third set, it seemed that the worse might be over. Instead, Gómez broke again immediately and served out for the set, a blow from which Agassi never recovered.

A year ago, Gómez had been back in Ecuador at the time of the final after being beaten in the second round. He was asked to commentate on the final between Chang and Edberg for Ecuador TV, but turned down the invitation with the rider: "Next year, I'll do it for you for sure."

The oldest player since Andrés Gimeno won, at the age of 34, in 1972, few would begrudge Gómez in his hour of triumph. Equally, few would seriously believe that it is the dawning of a new phase in his career. The retirement of Magnus Gustafsson in the fourth round and an easy passage against Thierry Champion in the quarterfinals left enough in the legs, literally, for a final fling. Gómez was more optimistic about the future. "I see this as more of a sunrise than a sunset," he said.

• A memorial service will be held for Ted Tinling, the tennis fashion designer, at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London on Sunday, June 24, at 3pm. Fulfilling the terms of Tinling's will, the theme tune from the television series *Neighbours* will be played at the end of the service.

Two-handed girl: Seles jubilates after defeating Graf in Paris, her second defeat of the German in three weeks

Graf not rid of Seles headache

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE

JUST this time last year, we were asking questions about the defeated champion, Steffi Graf. Was she quite the same player who had won the grand slam the previous year? Had she lost the will? Were others led by the new champion, Arantxa Sánchez-Vicario, overtaking her?

The answers were generally cautious. Aranba had enjoyed a wonderful fortnight. She had lent variety to the women's game and everyone was deeply grateful for that. But a lasting threat to Steffi? That question was put on hold.

There should be no such caution about Monica Seles, who beat Graf 7-6, 6-4 to become the new, and – at the age of 16 years six months – the youngest French Open champion. In an hour and a half of

spellbinding tennis at Roland Garros, Seles proved herself not just a worthy challenger to Graf, but someone who, in Graf's own words, could become a "nightmare" over the next few years in much the same way as Graf has been for Martina Navratilova.

Seles has beaten Graf twice in three weeks, both in straight sets. No one has ever shown that sort of domination over the West German since she won the first of her eight grand slam titles at Roland Garros three years ago.

Even more worrying to Graf, her coach, Pavel Slozil, and her father, Peter Graf, is that, unlike the match in Berlin three weeks ago, Graf had chances – four set points at 6-2 in the first tie-break – to win and could summon neither the confidence nor the aggression to convert them.

Like everyone else on the

central court, Chris Evert, commenting for NBC, had to rub their eyes in wonder.

"As a champion, I cannot believe she lost that set," she said.

Graf was equally perplexed. "If I had won that set, I would have won the match," she said. "But I didn't play the right shots and that is usually a part of my game that is very strong." The inescapable conclusion is that, in the face of Seles's relentless two-handed attack on both sides and mindful of the vulnerability of her own forehand, Graf simply lost her nerve. At 6-5 she served another double-fault, at 6-6 hit yet another forehand long, at 6-7 she finally came to the net and was passed down the line with some ease.

"When I go back to 6-6, I knew I had her," Seles said. In years to come, if Graff will know that, too.

Endures, those points could prove even more decisive than they did on Saturday.

Like last year and like another ailing champion, Boris Becker, Graf now has to turn to Wimbledon for succour. On grass last year, where her heavy first serve is so much more effective, she beat Seles, 6-1, 6-1.

In the meantime, she will return home to West Germany to celebrate her 21st birthday on Thursday.

Seles, having failed to persuade her father to sanction the purchase of her favourite car, a Lamborghini, will make a flying visit to Italy to watch Yugoslavia play Colombia in the World Cup before beginning her preparations for Wimbledon. "Now I know that I can play well for two weeks and play seven matches consistently,"

Graf will know that, too.

YACHTING

Fated fleet leaves Plymouth

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

WITH one yacht left padlocked to the quayside and ill-health and lack of sponsorship countering the two British favourites, a depleted fleet of 36 ocean-going craft set out from Plymouth yesterday bound for Newport, Rhode Island, on what could be the last two-handed transatlantic race.

Tony Bulimore, whose 60ft trimaran, Spirit of Apricot, was a firm favourite for line honours, was ruled out by a back injury. Paul Roper, the first to withdraw his 60ft BOC round-the-world race contender Enif two weeks after her launch because of lack of preparation time and sponsorship.

The third unfortunate skipper was David Fittner, of Finland, who had his 50ft trimaran Non-Smoking Days impounded by Customs and Excise officers who slapped a writ on her mast on the eve of the race.

Ironically, the small fleet,

which is half the size of previous BOC Challenge solo round the world race which starts from New York in September.

First across the line was South Africa's Baltic Rover, aborded Grinaker, closely followed by the 30ft boat from John Martin's racing team.

But by the time this group had cleared the harbour breakwater for the second time, Reed had dropped back leaving the American Warren Luhrs on Hunter's Child to challenge Martin for the lead as they set out into the western approaches.

The challenge is to complete the 3,000-mile course inside the record set by the late Leric Caradec and his crewman Olivier Despaigne, who covered the distance in 73 days, six hours and 13 minutes, six years ago with their 50ft catamaran Rocaine.

Mike Birch and his crew on Fujicolore were also challenging until hampered by a tangled rope.

A close tussle also developed between the leading 60ft monohulls whose skippers are using this race as a proving trial for the race.

Ironically, the small fleet,

Cable home in first as gate baulks pursuit

BY MALCOLM McKEAG

AFTER Midnight, D Cable's X-11, slipped through the gate at St Katherines just as it closed on her pursuers, to finish four hours ahead of the next boat in the Royal Ocean Racing Club's first 200-mile of the season and take the de Guingand Bowl with it.

As well as the tidal gates at the back of The Wight, the race was affected by strong winds and a preponderance of reaching work.

Jean-Yves Fuik's Farr 45, 1992 was first of the 31 starters home. But the Rorc would not permit the use of the boat's commercially inspired name in the strictly amateur Channel handicap class.

RESULTS: Rorc de Guingand Bowl: 1st, D Cable (D Cable), X-11, 1992; 2, P Fuik (Farr 45), 1992; 3, S. Orecchio, 31.10.25; 3, Scopri (Gian, Sigma 38), 32.22.26; 4, D. Palmer (US), 36.22.3; 5, D. Dupper (GB), 36.62; 2, S. S. S. (GB), 36.63; 1, J. Bocca (It), 36.54; Femina fourt 2, A. Agnelli (It), 36.18; Femina fourt 2, I. Apigian (Us), 36.22; 3, K. McGroarty (Ireland-Hampshire), 36.21.

It was over a minute before Beale's boat was righted and he was able to breathe freely again.

RESULTS: Femina One race for Dates of York Trophy: 1, M. Zampetti (GB), ave speed 36.33; 2, P. Fuik (Farr 45), ave speed 36.31; 3, S. Orecchio, 31.10.25; 3, Scopri (Gian, Sigma 38), 32.22.26; 4, D. Palmer (US), 36.22.3; 5, D. Dupper (GB), 36.62; 2, S. S. S. (GB), 36.63; 1, J. Bocca (It), 36.54; Femina fourt 2, A. Agnelli (It), 36.18; Femina fourt 2, I. Apigian (Us), 36.22; 3, K. McGroarty (Ireland-Hampshire), 36.21.

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Britain's fours are not found wanting

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL, BRANDENBURG, EAST GERMANY

BRITAIN'S top four took on the best of Europe at Brandenburg Regatta this weekend, and were not found wanting. The coxed four of Martin Grosser, Peter Muller, Gavin Stewart and Terry Dillon, had an unhappy time in the coxless pairs on Saturday, and Dillon qualified for the final but managed only fifth place.

They looked much happier in their coxed four on Sunday and looked ominous when winning their morning heat, rating 32 or less. The final saw Britain rowing between East Germany and the Romanian world champions, both of whom beat them at Essent. Britain led from the start and, maturely rating lower than both the Germans and the Romanians for the line.

The improvement of the coxed four since Essen is self-evident and is something which might be expected to seen from the newly-formed coxed four of Jonathan Hulls, Jonathan Seal, Richard Phelps and Jonathan Singfield. The crew failed to qualify for the Saturday final, but were fourth on Sunday.

A further ban imposed at Chantilly yesterday means that Asmusen will miss all of Royal Ascot.

David Elsworth spoke up on behalf of his jockey in the Epsom inquiry. "Basically Cash was taking corrective action to

prevent the filly from humping. She didn't give her true running and will now have a rest."

Game Plan delighted Clive Britain in finishing second and will be aimed at the Pretty Poly Stakes at the Curragh on June 20.

Impressively as Salsabil won, a question mark must hang over the value of the form. Apart from in the big race, Salsabil and Pat Carson shared the riding honour, both landing doubles.

Jack Bell's two English partners are Royal Ascot bound. It's All Academic for the Queen Mary Stakes and Prohibition for the Wokingham.

Eddery completed a remarkable week by flying to Leicester's evening meeting where he landed a treble with Wyribill, Chicane and Deploy.

Pipe has last laugh with Torrington walk-over

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

BEFORE a large crowd at Umbrella on Saturday, the 1990 point-to-point season came to a close with the Torrington Farmers meeting.

Racing was competitive but, ironically, the final event was a walk-over by a horse named its Laughter, in the colours of the champion National Hunt trainer Martin Pipe.

While Pipe had had the odd winner before between the flags, Clive Carson has not, despite trying for more years than most can remember.

In his time he has not been afraid to take on the Airforce fences on more than one occasion, but the winner's enclosure had clutched him until Saturday's restricted race when he partnered Stacey Rambler.

After leading for most of the race, Stacey Rambler blundered and was headed three out but stayed on to lead at the last and won by three lengths.

RACING

Superb Salsabil prepares to duel against the colts

By MICHAEL SEELEY
RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE prospect of Salsabil, the brilliant winner of Saturday's Gold Seal Oaks, being in action against Quest For Fame and Sangiamo, the two Derby winners, and such older champions as Old Vic and in the Wings in the forthcoming great middle-distance tests is one to savour.

"I certainly wouldn't mind taking the colts on," said John Dunlop, after the 2-1 favourite had given the trainer his second, Willie Carson his fourth and Sheikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum his first triumph in the fillies' premier classic.

It was Lester Piggott who first coined the aphorism: "they always say that the three-year-olds are the best, but they never are." And the words of all time sprang vividly to mind as Salsabil produced a relentless surge of power to go five lengths clear of Game Plan in the last furlong.

Carson had, as usual, excelled himself in riding Salsabil as though confident of her stamina. Paying Salsabil a tribute, he said: "She's the most brilliant of my Oaks winners as she has several changes of gear."

The decision to keep Salsabil firmly on target for the Oaks, in preference to choosing the softer option of the first 1,000 Guineas and the Coronation Stakes, was principally the inspired decision of the owner, Hamdan Al-Maktoum. "Salsabil," he said, "is second in the French Derby on soft ground and was also only just beaten in the King George."

Whether to take the colts in July with three-year-old fillies is always a vexed question for trainers as nature dictates that the female sex is at its best in the autumn. Although such outstanding mares as Aunt Edith, Park Top, Dahlia (twice) and Time Charter, have all won Britain's most important middle-distance tests, Oaks winners have a sorry record. Fawncess, in 1976 being the solitary exception.

There has been a question mark hanging over Salsabil's possible stamina limitations. The first point was whether she would be prepared to relax and allow Carson to conserve her energies. The second was one of breeding, on the dam's side.

But, so often happens with winners of the Epsom classics, Salsabil immediately relaxed and settled. And although Carson later reported that she had acted none too well on the track, her superior class enabled her to be travelling within herself until Carson chose his moment to pounce.

With hindsight, those of us who had been doubting Salsabil's stamina on the grounds of pedigree were being pinheady. Although Flame Of Tara, her dam, won the one mile Coronation Stakes at Ascot, she was also successful over a mile and a half. And farther back in the tail female line appear the names of such redoubtable middle-distance horses and stayers as Partida and Alcide.</

Game Bluff Cove to show his liking again for Pontefract

By MANDARIN

BLUFF COVE, a winner on four occasions at Pontefract, can again show his penchant for the West Yorkshire course by winning today's Pontefract Cup.

Bluff Cove, who has also demonstrated his versatility in staying hurdle races, has been successful twice at Pontefract this season. On both occasions he was not unduly pressed to beat his rivals when ridden by Gavin Husband.

With Husband again in the saddle today, the eight-year-old looks to have the most to fear from Raahin. At Goodwood last month, Raahin finished a creditable fourth behind All Is Revealed on his seasonal debut.

Now with that race under his belt he will obviously strip fitter today, but I feel his concession of 5lb to Bluff Cove will prove too much.

Luka Cumani, who struck form with four winners on Friday, can take the June Maiden Mile Stakes with Arshad, who is my nap.

The Habitat colt has shown plenty of ability in his two starts this season. Last time out, at Leicester, he was far from disgraced when runner-up to Hasbah, who earlier in the season was involved in that blanket finish with Heart Of Joy and In The Groove for the Nell Gwynn Stakes.

However, the colt will not have it all his own way today with Sawaki in the field. Last time out she ran an eye-catching third to the useful Kadwah, who has sub-



Reg Hollinshead, who trains Bluff Cove

sequently gained a further success.

What A Card should appreciate the drop in the class in the Dewsbury Selling Stakes. Last time out, the Denys Smith-trained filly showed plenty of ability on her racecourse debut when sixth behind My Alma at Thirsk.

Gods Solution, who confines most of his winning to Catterick, where he has been successful seven times, can land the CSL Truck And Trailer Hire Handicap for the second successive year.

This season, the grey put up an excellent performance to win over the course and distance when beating Elegant Rose with today's rival, Super Benz, third. Since that victory Gods Solution has been beaten by Cumbrian Express, today's top-weight, at Thirsk.

However, this time Gods Solution meets Cumbrian Express on 3lb better terms for a

1½-length beating. This is further helped by the reduction of 5lb for the services of Jimmy Fortune.

Sally Hall looks to have the answer to the Barley Handicap with It's Me. Last month, the four-year-old made a pleasing debut on this course when third to New Mexico.

Miss Hall can follow up in the second division of the Juvenile Maiden Auction Stakes with Swiss Beauty, who will benefit for her debut run behind Soweto at Doncaster.

At Nottingham, Colin Tinkler can land the Youngsters Selling Stakes with Horstway. The gelding's recent performance can be forgotten as he was badly hampered. Prior to that, he showed plenty of ability in better company when third of 17 to Heaven-Light-Grey.

Reg Akhurst has already sent out a winner since recently taking over the Whitcombe Manor stables. At Brighton, I expect Run Home to continue the stable's success in the Spring Handicap.

Classic double

Mandarin (Michael Phillips) completed a 20-1 Epsom classic double on Saturday when selecting Salsibyl (2-1) for the Gold Oaks, having already napped 7-1 Derby winner Quest For Fame. Mandarin continued in fine form at Leicester's evening meeting when his nap, Wyribill, won at 3-1.

Blinkered first time

PONTEFRACT: 4-6 Zappy Fire, NOTWICH 2-30 Aztec Crusade, Aurora Morning, 3-30 Bob Spark, Run Home, Jones Kite.

Go And Go wins Belmont

GO AND GO, trained in Ireland by Dermot Weld, won the 1½-mile Belmont Stakes, the third of the American triple crown, at Belmont Park, New York, on Saturday.

Michael Kinane had Go And Go sent off at 15-2, poised to challenge on the outside on the final bend and after racing Thirty Six Red a furlong out, drew clear to win by 8½ lengths. Unhurried, the Kentucky Derby winner, started favourite but running without the drug Lasix for the first time, could finish only fourth, 13 lengths behind the winner.

Unbridled did, however, earn \$1 million bonus for having the most points, eight, in the

Kentucky Derby because it is easier to ship to New York than Kentucky, and I felt the British would suit him better.

Go And Go was the first foreign winner since Celine Andi in 1960, and only the second Irish-trained winner of the Belmont after Cavan, successful in 1958.

The result will encourage those European trainers considering a challenge for the Breeders' Cup, to be held at Belmont in November. Medication is prohibited in New York, one of the few states to ban the use of drugs. With the home side put at a rare disadvantage, the prospects of the European runners can only be improved.

"This is equivalent to an American horse winning the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe," said Weld, who once worked as a vet at Belmont. Go And Go may run in the Irish Derby although Weld conceded: "You would not call him a star at home but over here on a dirt track he is a different horse."

"We planned this after we won the Laurel Futurity last year," Weld continued. "We decided on the Belmont rather than the

three triple crown races. Summer Squall, the French Stakes winner and Derby runner-up but did not race Saturday, horses had to run in all three races to qualify for the bonus."

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EQUESTRIANISM

Amateur provides copybook finish

By A CORRESPONDENT

SHARON Lemon from Yorkshire, scored a popular victory at Bramham Park, West Yorkshire, yesterday, riding a copybook round on Oh Nicholas in the final, show jumping phase to win the McCoun-Mason Bramham three-day event.

Lemon, aged 24, is a true amateur rider who has come up through the local Rodeo and West of York Pony Club, and she owes her much-improved dressage to Jane Barrie. Two years ago Lemon and Oh Nicholas pulled up from 56th place after the dressage to finish fourteenth.

"He was brilliant and very confident," she said yesterday. "I didn't believe it." Previously a smidgen by trade, Lemon now concentrates on horses and aims to go to Equestrian.

Robert Lemmell, on Just An Ace was the only other rider in the first five to go clear in the showjumping, pulling up from fifth place to second. Just An Ace was competing in his first big three-day event, having won his first advance class at Buxton in May and three intermediates this spring.

Leslie Law followed his recent Windsor successes by riding Treasure Island into third place, after one fence down, and was well pleased after a "marvelous cross country".

Polly Lyon, aged 21, from Woking, in the National Young Rider's Championship in show style for the second time in three years. Her victory was all the more remarkable since Polly's Last is a young and inexperienced horse who she nursed around the cross country, which caused not a little trouble on Saturday. Polly's Last had also lost a month's work recently due to a virus.

Jane Little, in her first year of Young Riders, was the bridesmaid again (having been second also in the junior championships last year), with an unlucky two fences down when just to jump in pole position. William Fox-Pitt and his son, string, Farnham Sovereign, had the third place they took after the cross country and show jumping.

Five-nine horses completed the CCI, with only 12 retired and eliminated, while 19 young riders completed the event, with only five retired and eliminated.

RESULTS: McCoun-Mason Bramham International Three-day Event: 1. Sharon Lemon (Oh Nicholas) 62.02 pts; 2. Robert Lemmell (Just An Ace) 61.02; 3. Leslie Law (Treasure Island) 75.40; Booth and Co Selections Young Riders National Championships: 1. Polly Lyon (Polly's Last) 85.40; 2. William Fox-Pitt (Farnham Sovereign) 82.00; 3. William Fox-Pitt (Farnham Sovereign) 82.00; 4. Michael Tait (Trotter) 78.20; 5. M. H. Higgins (Hedgehog) 77.20; 6. P. J. Parker (Polly's Last) 75.20; 7. A. L. Lemmell (Just An Ace) 75.00; 8. D. G. Morris (D. G. Morris) 74.00; 9. S. Lemon (Treasure Island) 73.40; 10. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 73.20; 11. K. M. Morris (K. M. Morris) 72.80; 12. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 72.40; 13. S. Lemon (Treasure Island) 72.00; 14. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 71.60; 15. S. Lemon (Treasure Island) 71.20; 16. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 70.80; 17. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 70.40; 18. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 70.00; 19. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 69.60; 20. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 69.20; 21. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 68.80; 22. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 68.40; 23. A. H. Weston (A. H. Weston) 68.00; 24. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 67.60; 25. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 67.20; 26. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 66.80; 27. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 66.40; 28. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 66.00; 29. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 65.60; 30. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 65.20; 31. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 64.80; 32. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 64.40; 33. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 64.00; 34. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 63.60; 35. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 63.20; 36. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 62.80; 37. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 62.40; 38. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 62.00; 39. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 61.60; 40. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 61.20; 41. C. J. Thompson (C. J. Thompson) 60.80; 42. C. J. Thompson (C. J. 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Thompson) 0.00; 295. C. J. Thompson (C. J

Big golfing guns are setting their sights on the US Open

Levi chips clear of his rivals

From MITCHELL PLATT
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
CHICAGO

WAYNE Levi, of the United States, was on the threshold of his tenth success, and his second in three weeks, in the Western Open on the Butler National course here yesterday.

Levi distanced himself from his rivals, who included José María Olazábal, of Spain, with an excellent outward half of 32 and he chipped in for a two at the 11th. He did find water to drop two shots at the 14th, although he still held a three-shot lead over Tom Watson, of the United States.

Levi has been a professional since 1973, although he would be the first to admit that he is now playing the best golf of his career. His success in the Atlanta Golf Classic two weeks ago was his first since 1985.

Olazábal advanced, in terms of par, by covering the outward half in 33, but he soon found his thoughts straying towards the US Open, which starts at Medinah on Thursday.

For Nick Faldo, Sandy Lyle and Severiano Ballesteros that was always going to be the case, as all three began the final round too far adrift of the leaders to be a threat. Faldo took 73 for 290 and Lyle 74 for 293.

Faldo did little here to suggest that he will be a challenger for the US Open. Even so, it would be best to ignore his form. Faldo will have an altogether different attitude when he tees-up at Medinah. Then his concentration level will heighten, as he attempts to follow his success in the Masters with a first win in the US Open.

Lyle will move down the road with his confidence level high, despite including two 6s in his 74. He has worked hard on his game, with the assistance of David Leadbetter,

WESTERN OPEN SCORES

LEADERS AFTER THREE ROUNDS (US open scores): 1. W. Levi, 68, 70, 69; 2. P. Stewart, 68, 72, 70; 3. L. Roberts, 65, 69; 4. T. Watson, 69, 71, 69; 5. M. Faldo, 71, 73, 71; 6. A. Azinger, 72, 69, 68; 7. J. Olazábal (Sp), 71, 68, 72; 8. K. Clegg, 72, 70, 70; 9. P. Jacobson, 72, 70, 70; 10. C. Price, 73, 68, 71; 11. S. P. Faldo, 71, 68, 73; 12. N. Faldo, 73, 70, 70; 13. D. Curry, 72, 74, 71; 14. R. Mackenzie (Can), 70, 74, 75; 15. T. Levent (Fr), 71, 70, 77; 16. J. Lomas, 75, 73, 72; 17. R. Apple (France) 70, 71, 73; 18. T. P. Flinchin (France) 73, 71, 70; 19. J. Lomas, 75, 73, 71; 20. E. G. Moore (Eng), 70, 71, 73; 21. S. Ballesteros (Sp), 70, 69, 71; 22. N. Faldo (Eng), 70, 71, 70; 23. P. Jacobson, 72, 70, 70; 24. T. Watson, 70, 71, 70; 25. D. Curry, 72, 74, 71; 26. R. Mackenzie (Can), 70, 74, 75; 27. T. Levent (Fr), 71, 70, 77; 28. J. Lomas, 75, 73, 71; 29. E. G. Moore (Eng), 70, 71, 73; 30. P. Stewart, 68, 72, 70; 31. D. Curry, 72, 74, 71; 32. R. Mackenzie (Can), 70, 74, 75; 33. A. 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SPORT

MONDAY JUNE 11 1990

Gascoigne holding the key

From STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
CAGLIARI

ENGLAND are primed for revenge over the Republic of Ireland here tonight. There could be no greater motivation for Bobby Robson's side, seven of whom played in the opening European Championship tie two years ago, than the prospect of "settling the score", as the manager prefers to say, in the World Cup.

"The word revenge has tinges of warfare about it," he said yesterday during his last appearance before England enter the Renato San'Elia stadium. "It is a football match." Viewers accustomed to the more sophisticated continental style might, however, see the British version as indeed a physical battle.

For that, initially, is how the first match in Group F will be conducted. The Irish, whose tactics are based on the long-ball game will hustle and bustle in a manner which would be suicidal in the heat of the day. They must collectively work hard because of their individual inferiority.

England, as Gary Lineker admits, have to earn the right to display their superiority. "We must match their aggression," he said, "and then let our quality show." He, above all, will be relieved when the domestic affair is over. That a dark memory will then have been erased.

"All people want to talk about is what happened in the European Championship," he said. People want to talk specifically about his contribution during England's 1-0 defeat. By his own admission, he should have scored at least three goals but, unknowingly, hepatitis had already dulled his instinctive accuracy.

Beardsley, his principal assistant, was also suffering from fatigue. Nevertheless, as Bobby Robson recalled yesterday, England created no fewer than seven chances and he is expected to choose the same attacking formation and almost the same personnel. The one exception is Gascoigne, who is to fill Webb's central midfield role.

Therein lies the key. That it should be held by a 22-year-old who has collected only five full caps is a source of concern. Gascoigne is talented enough but not only is he still an international novice, he also cannot resist the temptation to play the fool.

It is no exaggeration to suggest that the destiny of the two nations is held in the hands of the impudent youngster. If Gascoigne maintains his discipline, England promise to take a healthy lead at the top of the group. If not, the Irish could again profit from a deficiency.

Townsend, Gascoigne's likely foe, is not averse to being abrasive and he will doubtless be instructed to act



Playmaker: Gascoigne sings his own praises in England's final training session before the game tonight

Today's teams

ENGLAND (4-4-2): S Shilton; G Stevens, T Butcher, D Walker, P Pearce, C Waddle, G Barnes, G Lineker, P Beardsley.
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND (4-4-2): P Bonner, C Morris, M McCarthy, K Moran, C Houghton, P McGrath, A Townsend, K Shaday, J Aldridge, A Casciano.

about England's defence. It might have been designed to withstand an attacking method which is arguably the least subtle in the competition. Wright, who has not fully recovered from a ricked neck, is unlikely to be included among the substitutes "in view of what our centre-backs will be asked to do", Bobby Robson said.

When asked whether he could foresee an aerial bombardment, he replied simply: "Are you joking?" Pearce could cause a self-inflicted wound with a characteristically rash tackle but England should otherwise adequately protect Shilton during his 119th appearance.

A goalless draw, remembering the fate of Argentina and the Soviet Union so far, would not be unacceptable.

Bobby Robson is looking for nothing less than a point. "We started badly in the last two tournaments and if we lose again, we are up against it straight away with the Dutch to come. We don't fear them but we want something in the bank when we play them on Saturday."

Unlike Barnes and Waddle, who have rarely blossomed on the big occasion, Gascoigne will not freeze. The broader the stage, the more comfortable he feels. His response to his public World Cup trial against Czechoslovakia six weeks ago confirmed that he is nerveless. Now that he is more established, can he carry the weight of responsibility?

There are no such fears

In reference to the apparent harsh officiating and the physical nature of the Irish challenge, Bryan Robson conceded: "We've got to be sensible." Gascoigne, once called "as daft as a brush" by the England manager, is not overloaded in that department. Never has he needed to be more contained than tonight.

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There are no such fears

Security stepped up for English opening game

From JOHN GOODBODY, CAGLIARI

THE phoney war will end tonight when England play their opening World Cup match against the Republic of Ireland amid the most rigorous security arrangements for any match in the 60 years of the World Cup.

However, there are still

astonishingly few English

supporters on Sardinia, most

of them being members of the

official Football Association

Travel Club. Ferries and char-

ter planes, on which alcohol

has been banned, yesterday

brought only a few hundred

supporters, while at Genoa,

which had been expected to be

used as the embarkation port

for many people, a consular

official said the police were

outnumbering the supporters.

The drinks ban was im-

posed yesterday here and no

alcohol allowed to be bought

from the shops after midday

and not in bars and res-

taurants after midnight. The

prohibition will end on Tues-

day morning.

Similar measures have been

carried out in all other cities

staging World Cup matches,

except Udine. In some, hotels

have even temporarily em-

tied the hotel minibars. Any-

body breaking the ban can be

fined up to £500, as well as

losing his licence for several

days.

The followers of England

who have arrived without

accommodation have found

difficulty in getting places to

sleep because the hotels are

full up and those resorts which

have room are inaccessible by

public transport after 10.45pm

when the match finishes

tonight.

John Tunmon, a World

Cup official of the Football

Supporters' Association,

described the situation as

"tricky." He went on: "Yet

I'm surprised how few people

have arrived although there is

plenty of time tomorrow."

Because no one knows how

long England will survive in

the competition, it is true that

many people will not arrive

until the last possible moment

so as to make the most of their

money and holidays.

Despite some trouble last

week, everything so far has

gone reasonably smoothly. On

Saturday night, the English

and the Italians happily cele-

brated together Italy's victory

over Austria. In the bars along

the waterfront, groups of

supporters exchanged chants

and songs in a demonstration

of comradeship that was

heartening. Tunmon said:

"Previously, the English had

been cut off and estranged but

even the police became more

and more relaxed. It took the

edge off things completely.

There was a euphoric

atmosphere."

Let us hope it continues like

this until the end of the

tournament.

● The centre of Milan was

tense yesterday as thousands

of supporters from several na-

tions congregated in the

Piazza del Duomo and peri-

odically erupted in minor

clashes which brought riot

police rushing to the scene in

convoys of jeeps and vans

(Roddy Forsyth writes).

Yugoslavs and Germans

were the main components of

an unruly crowd in the centre

of the cathedral square, but

they were supplemented by

numerous other factions,

including Colombians, Scots,

Irish, Austrians and un-

attached Italians.

One hour left for Hadlee to make his mark

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of five): England with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 204 runs behind New Zealand

EVEN by his own peerless standards, Richard Hadlee will now be stretched to leave anything but an emotional mark on his farewell Test at Trent Bridge.

He has, realistically, an hour this morning in which to make significant incisions in the England batting. If he fails, and if England negotiate that impressionable period through to midday, then the first Cornhill Test will be safely filed away as a draw.

Though it is asking a lot of Hadlee to revive a match which, through three dank and dismal days, has yielded the equivalent of one day's cricket, England know him too well to take anything for granted. If their guard had subconsciously been dropping, they were back on full alert once Hadlee's first ball had bashed Graham Gooch, shortly before Saturday's brief session of play gave way to worsening weather.

It has not, so far, been a happy game for Gooch. His car was broken into on the eve of the match, he suffered a stomach upset on Friday night and then, next morning, showed with a baleful stare, that he felt umpire Hampshire had added unnecessarily to his troubles.

Television replays tended to support Gooch's view. The ball from Hadlee pitched middle and would have done well to hit leg stump. Nonetheless, Gooch was non-committal across his crease in the vulnerable position which Terry Alderman exploited so mercilessly last summer.

Against last year's Australians, Gooch was out leg before five times in nine innings, twice to Alderman for nought. He could not have been in richer form coming into this match, but his footwork is minimal early in an innings and Hadlee's success will be seen as a psychological gain by the New Zealanders.

As Gooch retreated, one had to wonder how devastating Hadlee might have been on the first day, when both pitch and overhead conditions

were precisely as he would have ordered. Today, if the forecast sunshine arrives, his threat might be diminished. But in Saturday's grey dampness, England had their own Hadlee, to at least a passable imitation, in a man who must privately concede he is extremely fortunate to remain a Test bowler.

From one who has never remotely lived up to his early promise, Philip DeFreitas commanded immediate loyalty from the selectors. How many other all-rounders can a sixteen Test cap with a batting average of 11 and a bowling average of 48? Even when his batting claims were largely disregarded, his bowling did not merit such faith. Nor, in the past, did his behaviour.

In 1988, his then-county, Leicestershire, disciplined him. The response of the England selectors was to put him on the back and recall him to the Test team. Last year, he had scarcely ticked out of a contract to tour South Africa when England welcomed him again. Finally, he was chosen for this match having taken 11 first-class wickets this summer at almost 50 runs apiece.

If,